SEIKAI TRILOGY
CREST OF THE STARS

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SEIKAI TRILOGY

CREST OF THE STARS

VOL. 1

Original Story by
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TOSHIHIRO ONO

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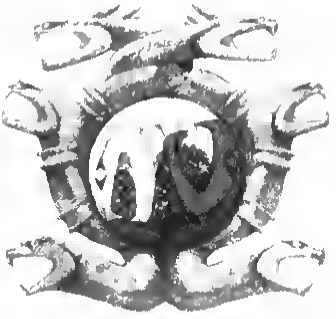

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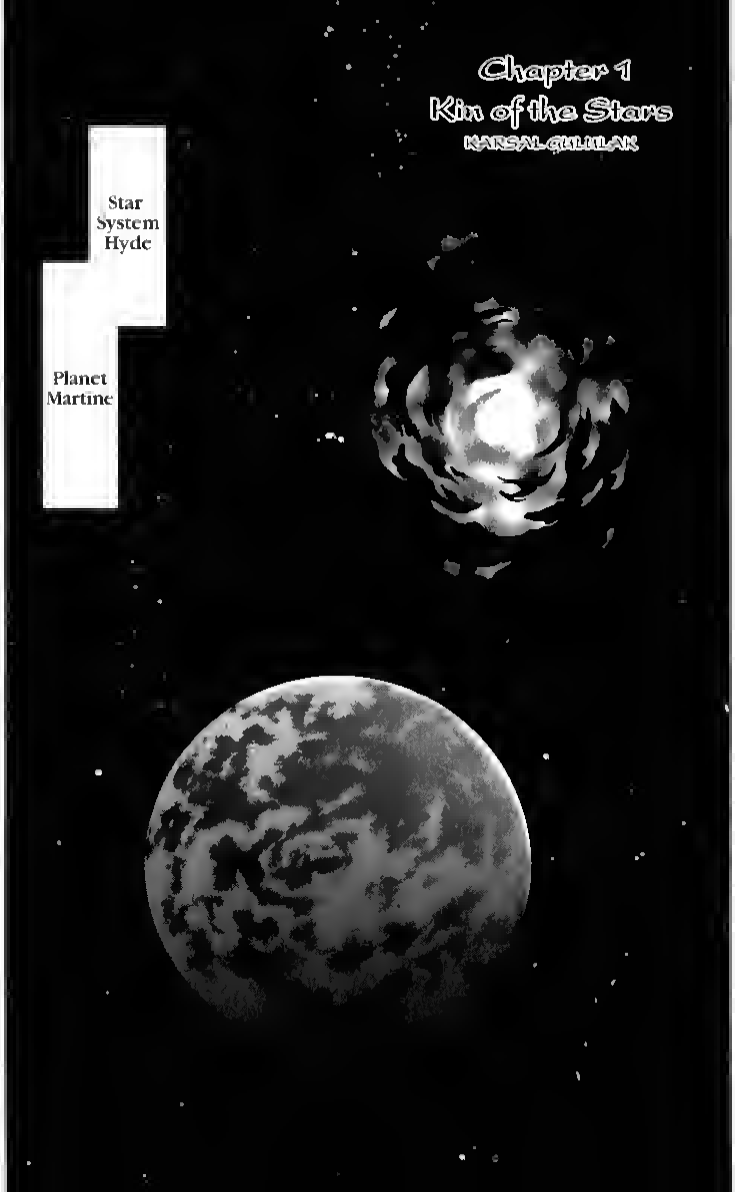
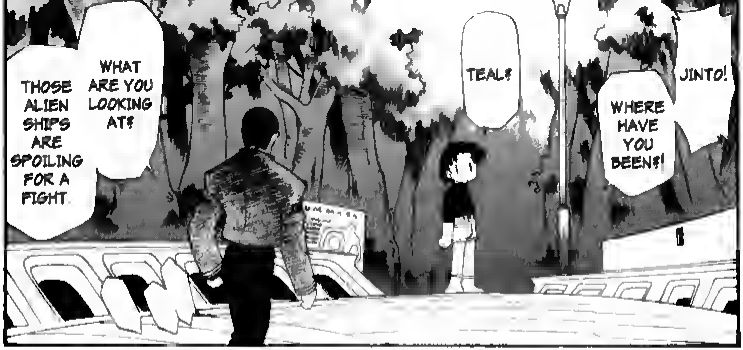

Chapter 1
Kin of the Stars
KARSAL-GULLILAK
Star System Hyde
Planet Martine

ゴゴゴ

Whoa!
IT'S BEAUTIFUL!
ゴゥ
ゴゥ
ゴゥ
ゴゥ

THOSE ARE ALL SPACESHIPS
JINTO!

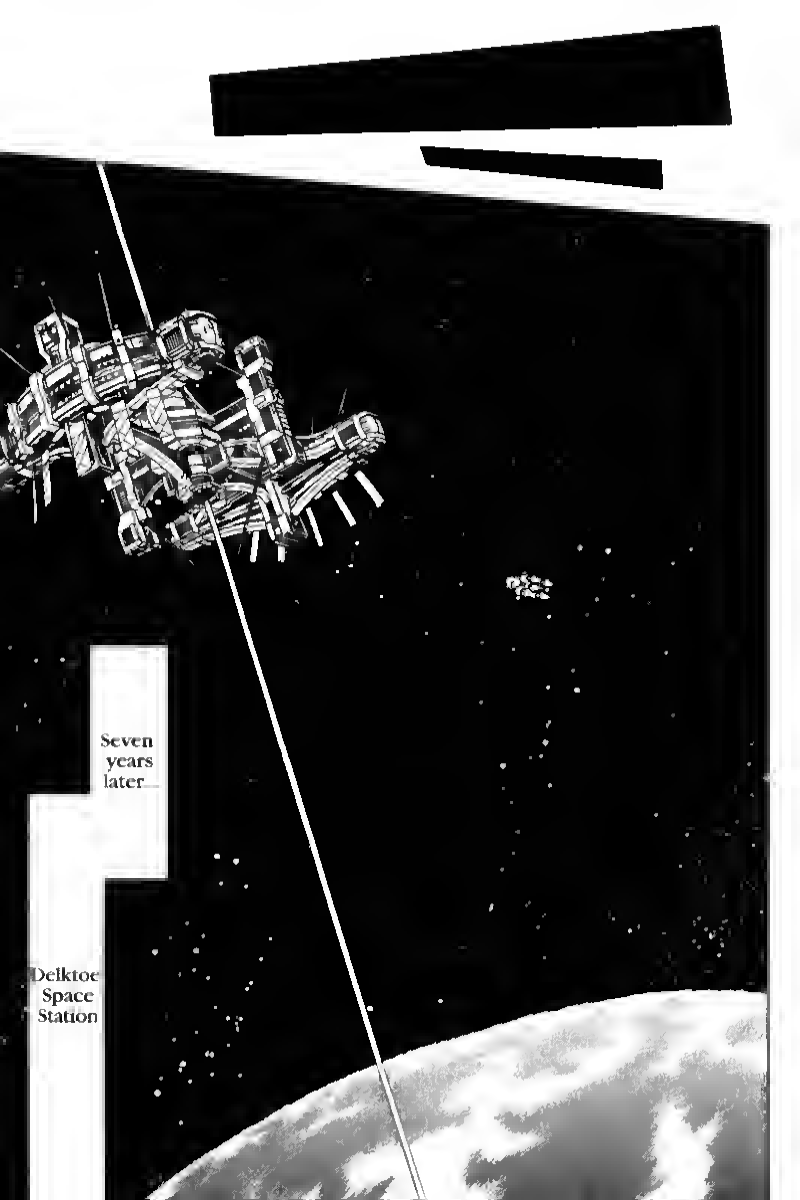

JINTO!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
TEAL?
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
THOSE ALIEN SHIPS ARE SPOILING FOR A FIGHT

YEAH I KNOW
WILL THERE BE A WAR?
NO THERE'LL BE NO WAR
YOUR FATHER HAS DECIDED TO SURRENDER

WHAT?!
GIVE UP?!
NOT GIVE UP HE'S CUTTING A DEAL
PRESIDENT ROCK LIN...
...WILL BECOME AN ABH NOBLE BY SURRENDERING THIS PLANET
DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THIS MEANS, JINTO?

YOUR FATHER...
...HAS BETRAYED...
...EVERYONE IN THE HYDE STAR SYSTEM!
DAMN HIM!
HE WILL MAKE THE ANNOUNCEMENT IN TEN MINUTES.
...AT WHICH TIME HE WILL SUBJECT THE LIN FAMILY TO THE HATRED OF EVERY MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD LIVING ON THIS WORLD
THE PEOPLE WILL RESENT YOU DEEPLY. THEY'LL DENOUNCE YOUR NOBLE STATUS.
THIS PLANET WILL BECOME YOUR DOMINION!
THAT CAN'T BE!

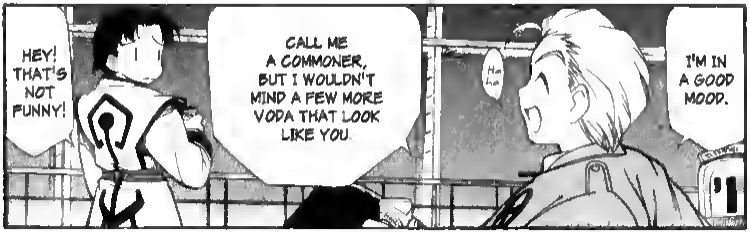
UH...
UH...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
STOP IT, TEAL
I'M SORRY, JINTO
On the third day, the Abh Empire seized executive control over the Hyde Star System–
Jinto lost his home and his family and his people
ゴゴゴゴゴゴ


Seven years later...
Delktoe Space Station

ウォォ
MMP MMP
SHH! SHH!

OH, BROTHER
GASP
The Lengarf Glorf bound for Estate State will depart at 17:30
Passengers are now boarding
JUICE
JINTO LIN!
HEY!

DORIN KU!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I CAME TO SEE YOU OFF!
OR IS A POOR BOY LIKE ME ALLOWED TO BID FAREWELL TO A SON OF NOBILITY?
THANK YOU.
WHAT?!
WHAT DID I HEAR?!
YOUR PRONUNCIATION IS SLIPPING.
I THOUGHT I HEARD A BIT OF BLUE BLOOD IN THERE!
HA HA HA HA HA!
IT'S BEEN SEVEN YEARS SINCE I CAME TO BOARDING SCHOOL.
I'M SORRY I DIDN'T TELL ANYONE THE TRUTH I JUST WANTED TO BLEND IN, LIKE ANY OTHER STUDENT.
IF EVERYONE HAD KNOWN I WAS SUIF, WOULD THEY HAVE LET ME HANG OUT WITH THEM?
YOU'RE RIGHT.
THEY'VE NEVER SEEN SUIF, OR ANYONE NOBLE FOR THAT MATTER.
NOBODY KNOWS HOW TO ACT AROUND THEM.


HEY! THAT'S NOT FUNNY!
CALL ME A COMMONER, BUT I WOULDN'T MIND A FEW MORE VODA THAT LOOK LIKE YOU.
Ha ha
I'M IN A GOOD MOOD.

I MAY BE ABH NOBILITY
BUT TO MY HOMEWORLD, I'M A CRIMINAL
HEY...

IT'S JUST WEIRD FOR A LANDER TO BE WEARING A LUE SUIT
IT'S LIKE THEY'RE WATCHING A DOG USE CHOPSTICKS

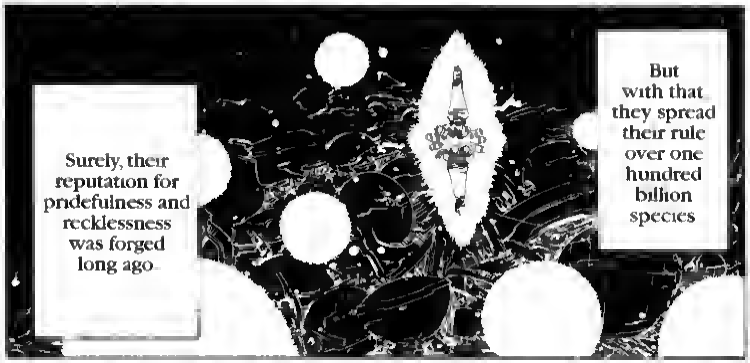
WHO CARES?
IT'S JUST A TERRITORY NOW
Today, the 23 Sol President Park Un of the Hyde System Government informed the Commander of the Abh Navy, his Lordship Dusanyu, King Abriel Nei Limzale Baike of his decision to relinquish authority of the Hyde system to the Abh.
As of this day, the Planet Martine, along with the entire Hyde system is a territory of the Abh Empire.

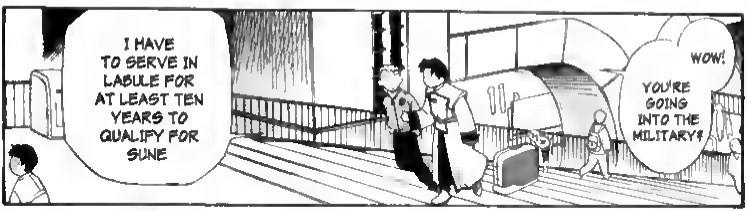
He'll be acting more like the manager in an interplanetary free-trade company than an actual lord
The President has sold out Hyde?!
No, this is an unusual situation
What's that?!
The President will be Abh nobility?!
and has boosted his own political career in the process
The President's decision is deplorable. He's surrendered the freedom of every citizen in the Hyde system
DAMN!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE A GOOD MAN, ROCK.
DAMN.

I CAN'T READ MY FATHER'S THOUGHTS...
...BUT I THINK HE FEELS I'M A BURDEN TO HIM
YOU'RE REQUIRED TO FOLLOW YOUR FATHER INTO GREATNESS...
...AND THAT INCLUDES BEING SUIF, RULING LIBYUN...
OH, STOP BEING SO GLUM!
...AND INHERITING YOUR FATHER'S POSITION AS A COUNT
STOP BEMOANING YOUR FATE
IT'S ALREADY BEEN DECIDED FOR YOU
NOW, CONSIDERING HOW POWERFUL THE EMPIRE IS, CAN'T IT RELENQUISH SOME CONTROL OVER THE TRADE IN THE GALAXY?
UH...
YEAH.
THAT'S GREAT!
I SUPPOSE IF I WERE ASH, I WOULDN'T WANT THAT HUGE AMOUNT OF BUSINESS TO BE GIVEN TO US COMMONERS

RIGHT!
THINK ABOUT THESE THINGS.
YES!
MY DAD'S... JOB
?
HEH HEH HEH HEH!
HA HA HA HA HA!
OF COURSE.
MUST BE SOMETHING IN THE AIR!
THE ABH ARE PRIDEFUL AND RECKLESS.
HMMM
UH
HOW MUCH OF YOU IS LEGALLY ABH?

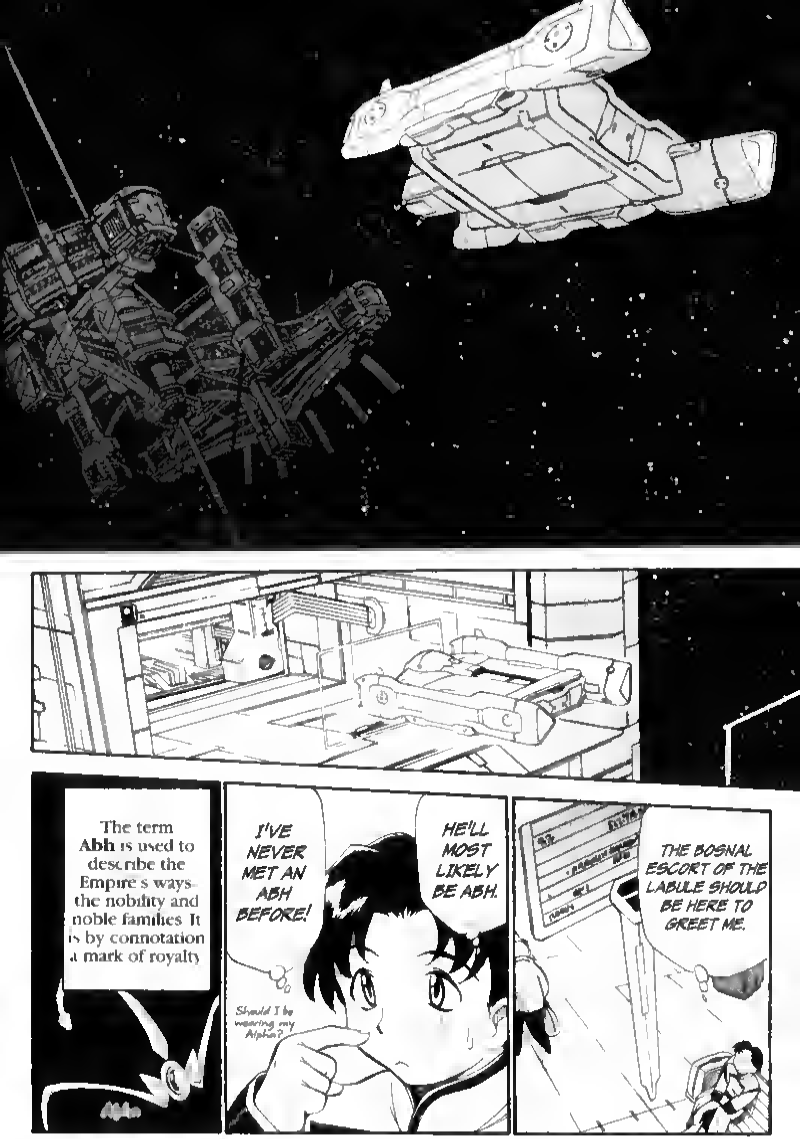
In the past the Abh wandered space as armed merchants
They dealt in information, selling their skills, scientific theories, even their fine works of art
But these genetically engineered humans engaged in commerce that was considerably one-sided
Before long, the Abh distilled the essence of science and, in order to maintain tight control over that knowledge, they decided to create a unified humankind company the seed of what would grow into the Abh Empire
At that time the Abh's total population was just shy of 300 000


Surely, their reputation for pridefulness and recklessness was forged long ago...
But with that they spread their rule over one hundred billion species

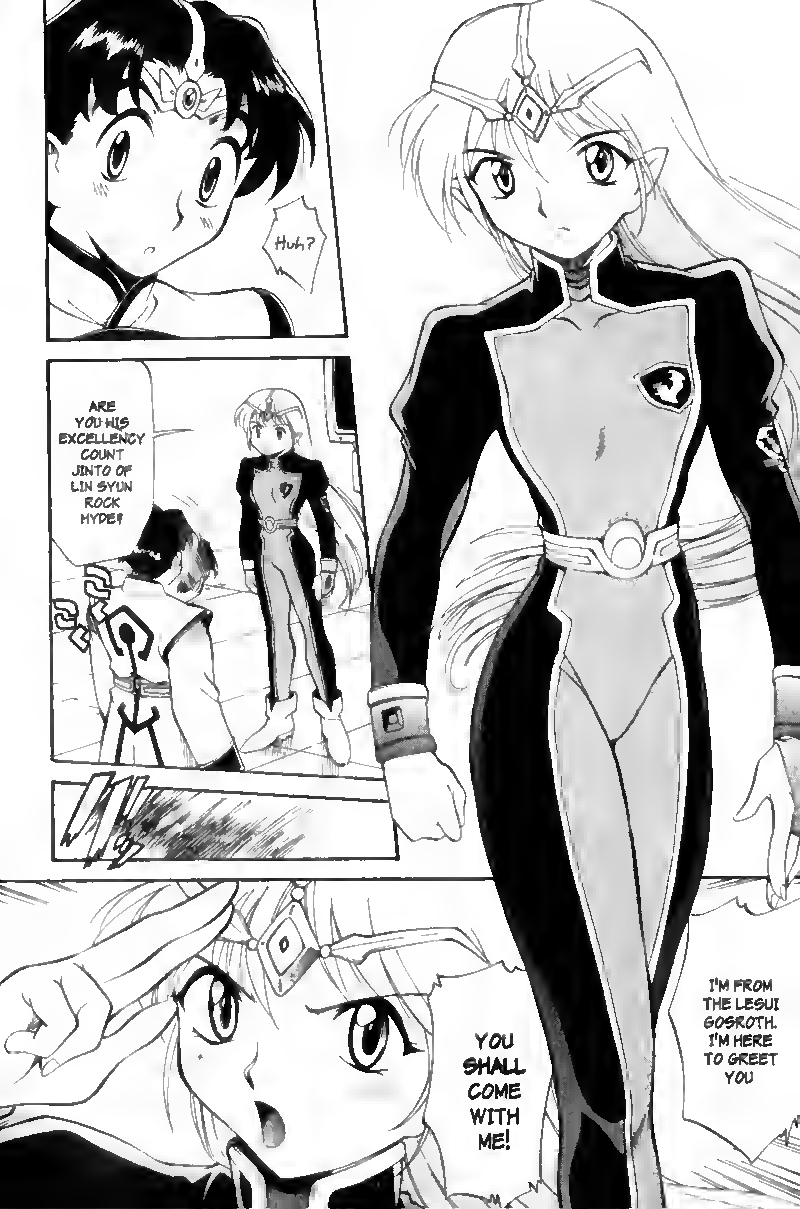

I HAVE TO SERVE IN LABULE FOR AT LEAST TEN YEARS TO QUALIFY FOR SUNE
WOW! YOU'RE GOING INTO THE MILITARY?

WELL...
...IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR ME TO GO
BUT...
A SHIP WILL BE HERE SOON TO PICK ME UP.
OFFICER TRAINING SCHOOL IN THE CAPITAL
REALLY?
Seven years of it
SO NOW I'LL BE STUDYING ABROAD AT THE AROSHI'S KENLE SAZOIL.
I'VE UNDERGONE THE ASH'S BASIC EDUCATION HERE
WHAT IS THAT?

COUNT JINTO OF LIN SYUN ROCK HYDE! OR SHOULD I SAY LIN SHUN ROCK YALULUG DRIL HYDAL JINTO
ONCE YOU DROP THE ARISTOCRATIC TITLE, FEEL FREE TO VISIT ME ANYTIME
BUT YOU CAN CALL ME JINTO!!
THAT'S JINTO LIN TO COMMONERS
I WILL, DORIN!!
YOU WATCH YOURSELF OUT THERE!


The term Abh is used to describe the Empire's ways- the nobility and noble families. It is by connotation a mark of royalty
I'VE NEVER MET AN ABH BEFORE!
HE'LL MOST LIKELY BE ABH.
Should I be wearing my Alpha 2
THE BOSNAL ESCORT OF THE LABULE SHOULD BE HERE TO GREET ME.

A product of genetic engineering
Beings that appear beautiful and ageless, with shocking blue hair and lifespans that stretch over 200 years
But this word also has another meaning
The species name is also Abh.
Their bodies were designed for life in the vacuum of space, leading them to dub themselves the Karsal Gululak the Kin of the Stars
Desanyu
IF I'M GOING TO FIT IN
I MAY HAVE TO COLOR MY HAIR
FOR THE MOST PART, THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO HAVE SEEN ABH ARE GENETICALLY AND LEGALLY ABH
HE'S HERE!


Huh?
ARE YOU HIS EXCELLENCY COUNT JINTO OF LIN SYUN ROCK HYDE?
I'M FROM THE LEGUI GOSROTH. I'M HERE TO GREET YOU
YOU SHALL COME WITH ME!

HUH?
くらっ
UH..
I
W-W-
WAIT A SEC!
ARE YOU NOT LIN SHUN ROCK YALULUG DRIL HYDAL JINTO RONYU HIS EXCELLENCY COUNT JINTO OF LIN SYUN ROCK HYDE?
YES, I AM BUT
HEY!
GOOD, THEN.
スタスタ

THAT'S A BENE RODIAL SEAL SO SHE'S STILL IN TRAINING!
BUT HOW OLD COULD SHE BE? ABH NEVER AGE.
UH.

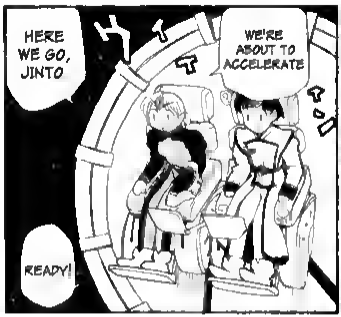
IF I WEAR THIS ALPHA, I'D BE ABLE TO CONTROL THE SHIP WITH MY BRAINWAVES, RIGHT?
WELL, SPATIAL SEN-- FROSHU ARE ONLY USED BY ABH
Jinto's is just for show

WHAT IS IT ?
HAVE YOU NEVER SEEN A FROSHU BEFORE?
Y-- YES

IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN
WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE?

SO YOU NEVER MAKE A MISTAKE.. LIKE TURN THE GOOHEIK IN THE WRONG DIRECTION?
YOUR SUBCONSCIOUS ACTS INTUITIVELY IT CALCULATES THE MOST SUITABLE FORCE AND TRAJECTORY TO ACHIEVE YOUR DISTANCE AND DIRECTION
IT'S JUST LIKE TAKING AIM BEFORE YOU THROW SOMETHING
OH..
I JUST DID IT
WELL THEN TELL ME HOW YOU CALCULATED OUR ESCAPE TRAJECTORY
I GUESS NOT.
BUT YOU WOULDN'T EVER ACCIDENTALLY WALK IN THE WRONG DIRECTION
NO
DO YOU THINK ABOUT YOUR MOVEMENTS WHEN YOU WALK?
OH. I SEE..
JUST THE KIND OF ANSWER I'D EXPECT FROM THE KARSAL GULULAK
I JUST THINK OF WHAT I WANT THE SHIP TO DO. AND MY FINGER MOVES WHEREVER IT NEEDS TO
IT'S THE SAME PILOTING THIS SHIP

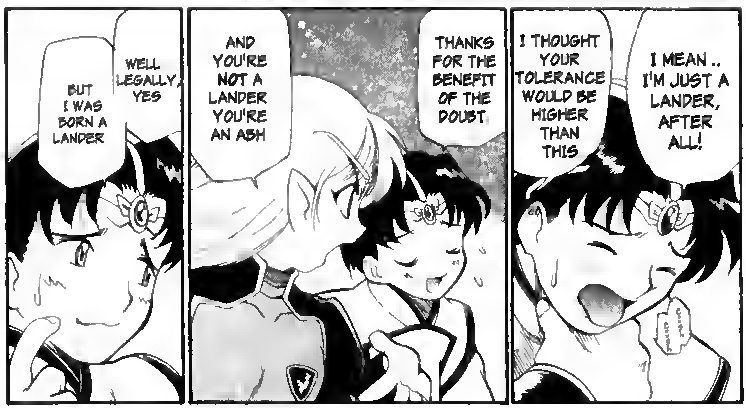
WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME?
I'M SORRY. I DIDN'T CATCH YOUR NAME
YOU SHALL CALL ME LAFIEL!!
WHOA! THAT REALLY CHEERED HER UP


HERE WE GO, JINTO
READY!
WE'RE ABOUT TO ACCELERATE

AND IN THE SAME MANNER... I SHALL CALL YOU JINTO.
OKAY!
BEEP BEEP
OF COURSE!

AAAAAH!
WH...
WHAT...

I SHOULD INFORM YOU THAT THIS SHIP ISN'T EQUIPPED WITH GRAVITY CONTROL.
UGH! WE'RE GOING SO FAST!
PLEASE, LAFIEL! CAN YOU SLOW DOWN!!


I MEAN .. I'M JUST A LANDER, AFTER ALL!
I THOUGHT YOUR TOLERANCE WOULD BE HIGHER THAN THIS
THANKS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT.
AND YOU'RE NOT A LANDER YOU'RE AN ASH
WELL LEGALLY, YES
BUT I WAS BORN A LANDER

The Abh population within the Abh Empire is 25,000,000, which make up 200,000 suff families. Of those, 1600 families are considered Voda, these Abh rule their own worlds
EQUATIONALS-ONE BILLION; POPULATION-NINE TRILLION.
YOU ARE VODA NOW.
WELL, YOU SHOULD AT LEAST BEHAVE LIKE AN ABH!
SPEED SHOULDN'T AFFECT YOU SO MUCH, JINTO. IF SO, YOU'LL NEVER GET ANYWHERE!
I'LL TAKE YOUR ADVICE TO HEART
Hah hah
FORGIVE ME I'M NEW TO ARISTOCRACY.
CURSE YOU, FATHER
HEY, JINTO...
...CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
WEIRD
IT LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE AFRAID I WAS GOING TO HIT YOU
REALLY?
T-THAT WAS HOW WE GREET PEOPLE ON MY HOME WORLD
DON'T YOU KNOW?
UGH.
WHY DID YOU SLAP YOUR HEAD WHEN I SALUTED YOU EARLIER?

IT'S LIKE SHE'S TEASING ME ARE ALL ABH LIKE THIS?
OH
WELL, I'M SURE IT LOOKS STRANGE IF YOU'RE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE CUSTOM
I'VE ONLY EVER KNOW ABH I KNOW VERY LITTLE ABOUT OTHER CULTURES

I AM THE COMMANDER OF THE LESUI GOSROTH, BOMOWASE LEXSHUE.
WELCOME ABOARD, RONYU.
I APPRECIATE YOUR ESCORTING ME TO THE CAPITAL, CAPTAIN
I AM LIN SHUN ROCK YALULUG DRIL HYDAL JINTO
MAN, ALL THE ABH LOOK ALIKE.
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MY CREW
HOW OLD ARE THEY?

I HAVE TO CALM DOWN
DAISELE !

FRASAS CONFIRMED
FRASATEI ENGINES NORMAL.
ONE MINUTE UNTIL SORD DILATION.
WE'VE ENTERED FWAS!
Beep
SORD OPEN!
THREE....
TWO.... ONE....
FOUR....
FIVE....

ONCE WE'RE IN FWAS...PLANE SPACE...THE EQUIPMENT TAKES OVER. IT'S ACTUALLY QUITE BORING.
.....
SO IF YOU HAVE SOME TIME NOW
...COULD I ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT ABH CULTURE?
I'D BE HAPPY TO ANSWER... RONYU ER, YOUR EXCELLENCY?
...

WHY I SEEM..
. TO KNOW NOTHING ABOUT HOW TO BEHAVE AS A SUIF
THEN MAYBE YOU CAN UNDERSTAND
YES, I KNOW A LITTLE ON THE SUBJECT.
DO YOU KNOW THE HISTORY OF THE DRIL HYDAL?
YES, OF COURSE
COULD YOU TELL ME?
I NEED TO KNOW.. WHAT MAKES AN ABH, WELL AN ABH
BEHAVING LIKE A VODA IS LEARNED FROM EXPERIENCE
NOT AT ALL.
I DIDN'T WANT TO TROUBLE YOU... THIS BEING OUR FIRST MEETING . AND YOU NEEDING TO COMMAND THE SHIP .

I MEAN, AREN'T LORDS EXPECTED TO BE ARROGANT, CAPTAIN?
WELL...
THEN...
AM I BEHAVING STRANGELY?
DO YOU KNOW THAT YOUR SOCIAL POSITION IS HIGHER THAN MINE?
IT IS? WELL, I'LL CALM DOWN ABOUT IT THEN.
YOUR EXCELLENCY...
...NOBLES CAN SOMETIMES BE FORGIVEN FOR BEING ARROGANT--BUT THEY DON'T EXACTLY ENGENDER GOOD WILL BY DOING SO.
YOUR BEHAVIOR IS PERFECTLY FINE.
WELL, I'LL HAVE SOMEONE SHOW YOU TO YOUR QUARTERS. MAYBE THAT TRAINEE FROM THE SPACEPORT...
OH, HER...
YOUR EXCELLENCY AND THE RODIAL SAZOIL ARE ON ASSIGNMENT UNDER ME, SO I EXPECT YOU TO WORK HARD AND ENTHUSIASTICALLY WHILE ABOARD.
DON'T WORRY
HOWEVER, THIS SHIP BELONGS TO THE MILITARY AND IN THE MILITARY, RANK IS EVERYTHING.
THE DALMUSAS VOFRIN IS A POSITIVE THING, AND THERE IS A DIFFERENT HIERARCHY DEPENDING ON RELATIONS WITHIN THAT SYSTEM

NEBE RODIAL ABRIEL, REPORT TO THE BRIDGE
ABRIEL ?!
FORGIVE ME. HOW COULD I ASSUME THAT YOU KNOW HER, LIVING WITH THE LANDERS AS YOU HAVE
ISN'T SHE ALSO SUIF?
SHE SURE ACTS LIKE SUIF
?!
YOU DON'T KNOW HER?
UH... WELL
AM I SUPPOSED TO?
THAT'S THAT'S
YES, THE CLYUVE LARUTE! FAMILY
HUH?
SHE'S NOT AN ABRIEL. FROM...?
THE...
THE IMPERIAL FAMILY ?
Hee hee!
YES.
SHE'S THE GRANDDAUGHTER OF ELMITA SPUNEJ RAMAJ.

YOU'RE AWFULLY QUIET AND WHY ARE YOU WALKING BEHIND ME?
WHAT'S WRONG, JINTO?
IT'S BECAUSE YOUR IMPERIAL HIGHNESS FEIA LUEL
MY GRAND-MOTHER IS SPUNEJ BUT MY FATHER IS ONLY A LALS!!
I'M NOT AN IMPERIAL HIGHNESS!!

I AGREE FEIA! YES
UH, I MEAN
OTHER-WISE, YOU'RE JUST BEING RUDE!
IF YOU INSIST ON FOCUSING ON MY RELATION TO THE EMPRESS, THEN CALL ME LUE BOGNE.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME, FEIA LALTONEL.

SO YOUR FRIENDS CALL YOU LAFIEL.
...EARLIER I SAID THAT YOU SHALL CALL ME LAFIEL!
BUT ...
SO, YOU MAY ALSO CALL ME VISCOUNT FARYUN... OR, IN MY TONGUE, FEIA BEL FARYUN.
I WAS ALSO GRANTED THE TITLE VISCOUNT FARYUN AND GIVEN A LIBYUN.

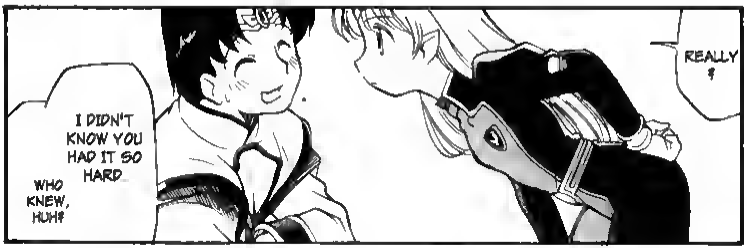
I FEEL SO IGNORANT.
AHH ALREADY KNOW MY FACE AND MY NAME.
YOU ARE THE FIRST TO EVER ASK ME FOR MY NAME.
WHY
THEN...
?
NO, NONE OF MY FRIENDS REFER TO ME WITHOUT A TITLE.

I'M REALLY ... SORRY
NO, I'M SORRY I WON'T INSIST YOU CALL ME LAFIEL.
I'D RATHER CALL YOU LAFIEL!
YOU REALLY DON'T HAVE TO, RONYU.

BUT I REALLY WANT TO!
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO EARN YOUR FORGIVENESS!!
LAFIEL!!
HOW ABOUT FEIA LUE BOGNE?

HUH?
... HAH ... HAH HAH HAH HAH ...
HAH...

I ENVY THE OTHER TRAINEES AT THE KENLE CALLING EACH OTHER BY NAME.
IT MAKES EVERYONE SO RELAXED AROUND EACH OTHER.
I CAN SORT OF...
RELATE TO THAT.
I WAS THE ONLY SUIF AT MY SCHOOL.
I HAD TO KEEP IT A SECRET FROM MOST PEOPLE.
REALLY?
BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I HAD TO LIVE IN FEAR OF BEING DISCOVERED
EVENTUALLY THE SOSUU LOOSENED UP AND I MADE FRIENDS.

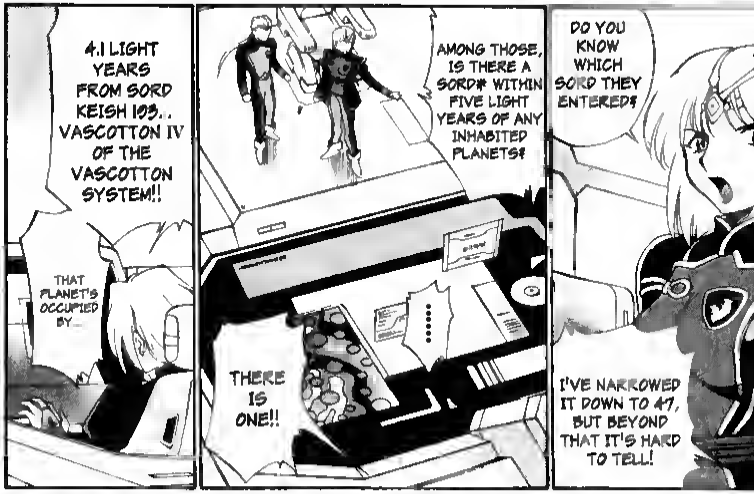

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD IT SO HARD
WHO KNEW, HUH?
REALLY ?

YOU COULD MEMORIZE THE SHIP'S BLUEPRINTS AND STILL GET LOST. ONLY LABULE PERSONNEL KNOW THEIR WAY AROUND
I FIND THAT HIGHLY UNLIKELY.
I CAN FIND MY OWN WAY THERE
I WILL COME TO COLLECT YOU THEN
DINNER IS IN TWO HOURS.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
BE SILENT, JINTO!
IT IS NOT GOOD ABH ETIQUETTE TO ASK QUESTIONS THAT ANGER ROYALTY!

When a warship travels through Plane Space its surroundings burst forth creating a bubble of power. In general, the space-time continuum only maintains all four dimensions inside these clusters. From the Hayakawa Library *Crest of the Stars Handbook*

HOW MANY?
THERE ARE 120 INDIVIDUAL SPACE-TIME CLUSTERS CONFIRMED
AT APPROXIMATELY 90 ZEZABO EACH
THEY INDICATE A TOTAL YADBIRU OF FOUR SHIPS


4.1 LIGHT YEARS FROM SORD KEISH 103... VASCOTTON IV OF THE VASCOTTON SYSTEM!!
THAT PLANET'S OCCUPIED BY...
AMONG THOSE, IS THERE A SORD* WITHIN FIVE LIGHT YEARS OF ANY INHABITED PLANETS?
THERE IS ONE!!
DO YOU KNOW WHICH SORD THEY ENTERED?
I'VE NARROWED IT DOWN TO 47, BUT BEYOND THAT IT'S HARD TO TELL!

*Sord - a passage that connects normal space and plane space.

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Manga
Sci-Fi/Action
USA $9.99

SEIKAI TRILOGY

CREST OF THE STARS™

After his home world is ruthlessly taken over by the Abh—a space-faring race that has conquered many worlds—a boy named Jinto begins an unforgettable journey that stretches the boundaries of the final frontier. With a beautiful princess at his side, he will attempt to unlock the secret behind Abh domination and discover that all's fair in love and interplanetary war.

100% AUTHENTIC MANGA

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SEIKAI TRILOGY

CREST OF THE STARS

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AYA YOSHINAGA
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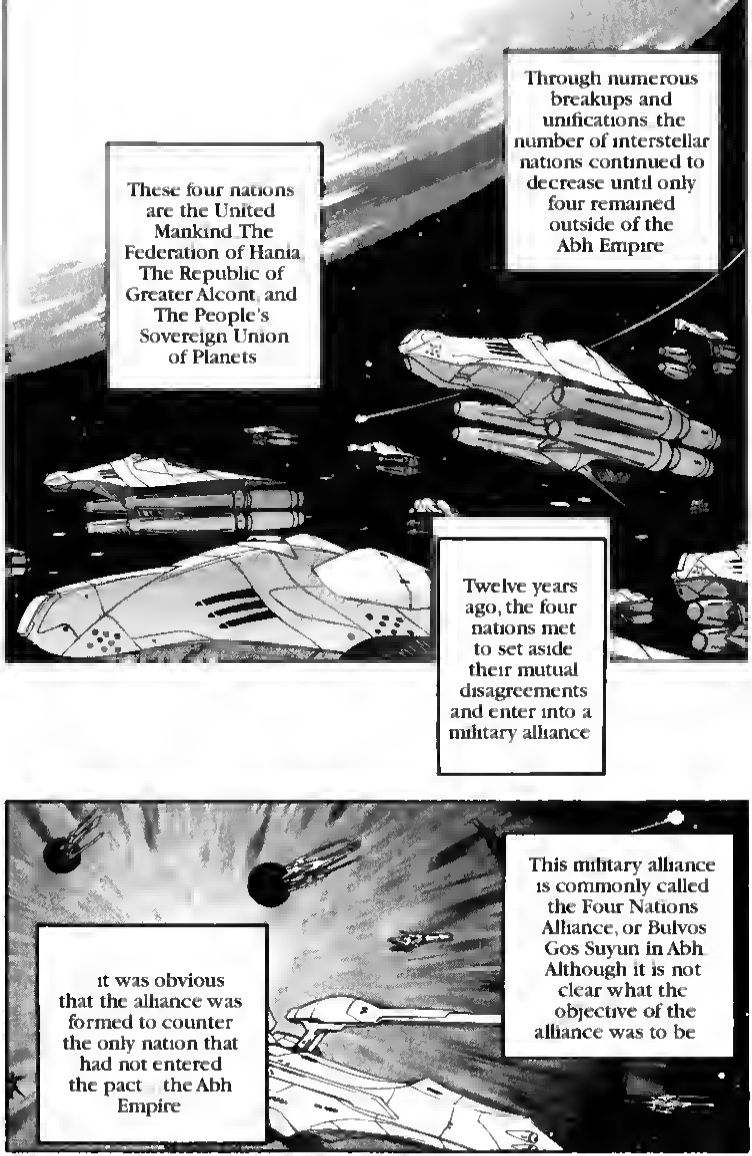
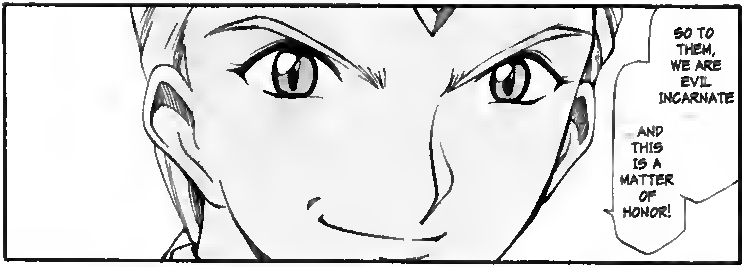
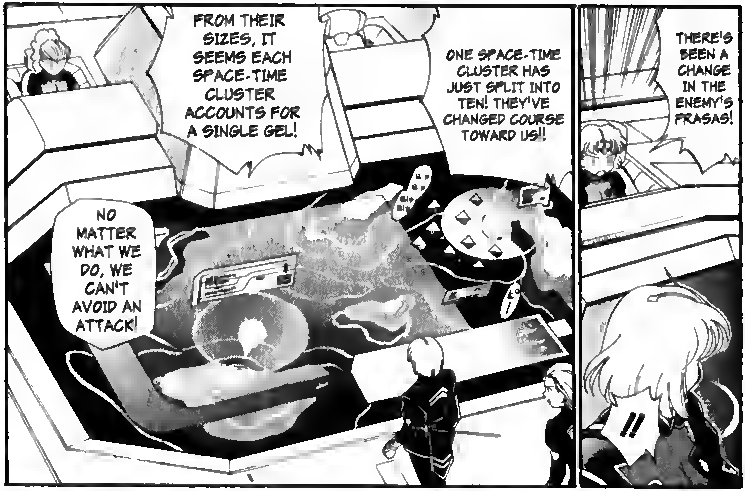
TOKYOPOP

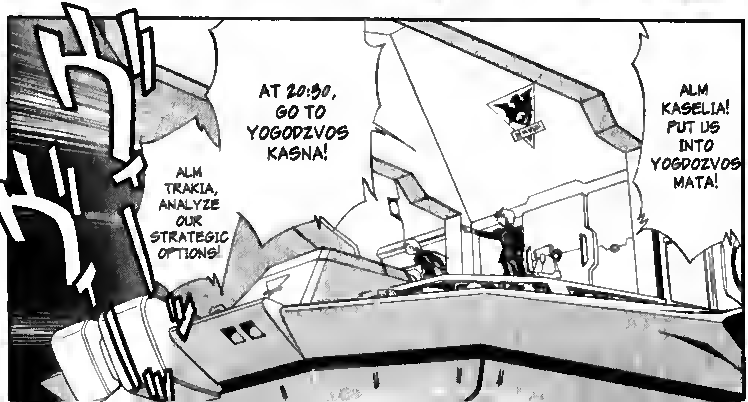
Chapter 2
Baron Febdash Territory
RUMISKOL FEBDASH


Through numerous breakups and unifications the number of interstellar nations continued to decrease until only four remained outside of the Abh Empire
These four nations are the United Mankind The Federation of Hania The Republic of Greater Alcont and The People's Sovereign Union of Planets
Twelve years ago, the four nations met to set aside their mutual disagreements and enter into a military alliance
This military alliance is commonly called the Four Nations Alliance, or Bulvos Gos Suyun in Abh Although it is not clear what the objective of the alliance was to be
It was obvious that the alliance was formed to counter the only nation that had not entered the pact the Abh Empire

WHAT?
SO, THAT'S IT.
SCRAMBLE
THEY ARE WELL AWARE THAT THE EMPIRE WOULD NEVER AGREE TO THAT.
CLEARLY
PRIMARILY, THEY HAVE BEEN ADVOCATING HYDE INDEPENDENCE AND DEMANDING ACCESS TO ROUTES WITHIN THE EMPIRE, SO AS TO PROTECT THAT INDEPENDENCE
THE BULVOS GOS SUYUN* HAVE MADE OVERTURES TOWARD WAR THROUGHOUT THE PAST YEAR.
...THEY HAVE FINISHED DEMANDING AND HAVE TURNED TO CREATING AN EXCUSE TO ATTACK.
...SO NATURALLY...
*Officially the agreement is called The Nova Sicily Treaty Military Alliance.
THEY PROBABLY BELIEVE THIS TO BE A LEGITIMATE UPRISING AGAINST OPPRESSERS.
...IF YOU BELIEVE THE HISTORY BOOKS WRITTEN BY THE UNITED MANKIND, THE ABH ARE BORN RUTHLESS KILLERS AND INVADERS
WELL
WHY WOULD THEY BE SO OBVIOUS ABOUT IT?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND


SO TO THEM, WE ARE EVIL INCARNATE
AND THIS IS A MATTER OF HONOR!


FROM THEIR SIZES, IT SEEMS EACH SPACE-TIME CLUSTER ACCOUNTS FOR A SINGLE GEL!
ONE SPACE-TIME CLUSTER HAS JUST SPLIT INTO TEN! THEY'VE CHANGED COURSE TOWARD US!!
THERE'S BEEN A CHANGE IN THE ENEMY'S PRASAS!
NO MATTER WHAT WE DO, WE CAN'T AVOID AN ATTACK!


ドド
ドドド
AT 20:30, GO TO YOGODZVOS KASNA!
ALM KASELIA! PUT US INTO YOGODZVOS MATA!
ALM TRAKIA, ANALYZE OUR STRATEGIC OPTIONS!

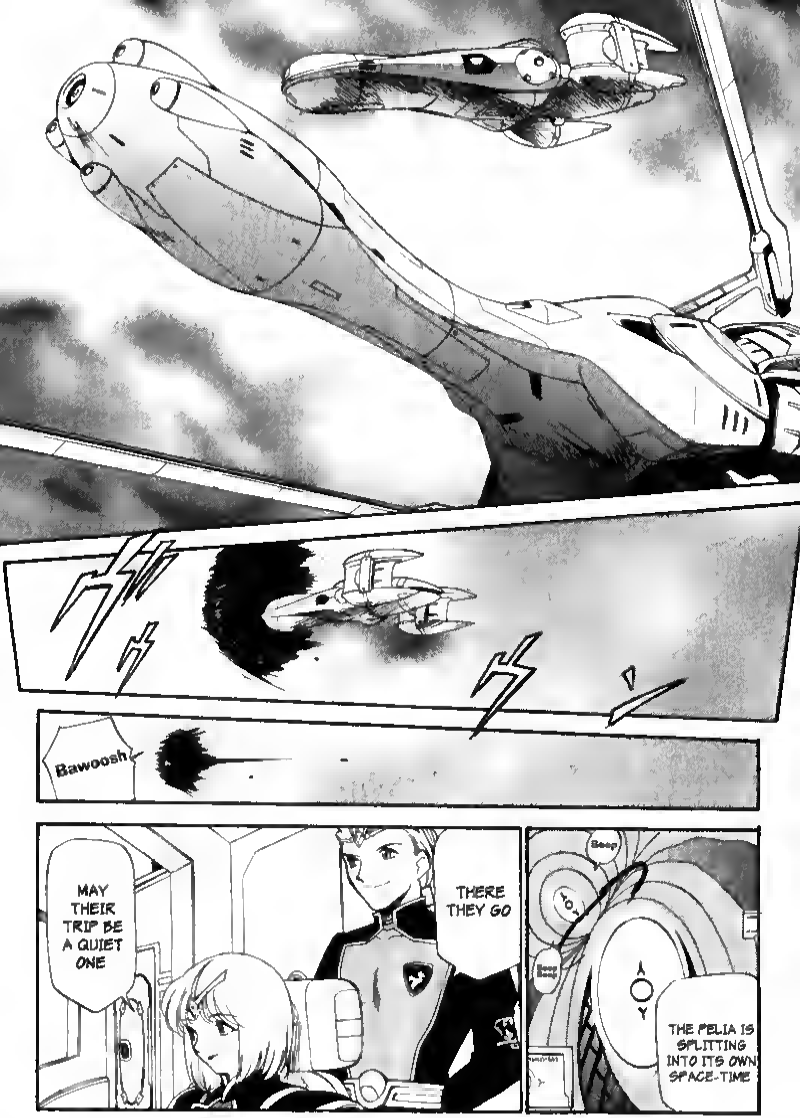
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF ARGUING WITH A BENE RODAIL
AM I NOT THE SALEL HERE?
I'D LIKE TO REMAIN ON THE SHIP AND--
SALEL!
I DON'T UNDER-STAND!

I GAVE YOU A DIRECT ORDER TO EVACUATE THE DRIL FROM THE BATTLE THEATER, AS WELL AS INFORM THE FURYU BARAL THAT WE ARE BEING APPROACHED BY WHAT APPEARS TO BE AN ENEMY FLEET INTENT ON ENGAGEMENT
YOU ARE NOT YET ATTACHED TO ANY BATTLE DIVISIONS ON THIS SHIP
BUT ...!
I AM AN ABRIEL! I SHALL NOT RUN!
VISCOUNT ABRIEL NEI DOBRUSK PARYUNU LAFIEL!!
SAVE YOUR PETTY OUTBURSTS AND ARROGANT BOASTING UNTIL YOU'VE EARNED YOUR ALPHA MABRAL!
YOU'RE FAR TOO INEXPERIENCED TO UNDERSTAND THE GRAVITY OF MY ORDERS
AND IF YOU FEEL THAT MY COMMAND IS CAUSING YOU TO LOSE FACE, THEN THE ABRIELS ARE NOT WORTHY OF ASH DEVOTION!!

Hmm
I SPOKE PREMATURELY AND OUT OF TURN, SALEL.
AS LONG AS YOU REALIZE THAT
PREPARE TO LAUNCH IN THE FELIA AT ONCE!
AYE!
I'LL SEE YOU AT LAKFAKALLE
...MY PRECIOUS FEIA KUFENA
AYE!
SALEL!!
.....

BUT IF YOUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVE IS TO EVACUATE ME
WOULDN'T A GUARD BE BETTER SUITED ?
RONYU YALULUG DRIL
I MUST APOLOGIZE FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO MAKE IT TO THE CAPITAL AS PLANNED
NO ..
BUT
Umm
Giate
PLEASE TRUST MY COMMAND
WHEN I HAVE NON-COMBATANTS ABOARD, I TAKE MEASURES TO ENSURE THEIR SAFETY
I SPOKE THE TRUTH THE BENE RODAIL ISN'T A PART OF ANY BATTLE DIVISION
ON THE OTHER HAND
..I'D BE LYING IF I SAID THE FACT THAT THE FEIA LALTONEL IS ALSO A BENE RODAIL DIDN'T PLAY INTO THINGS
I'M SORRY
IT WAS A THOUGHT-LESS QUESTION

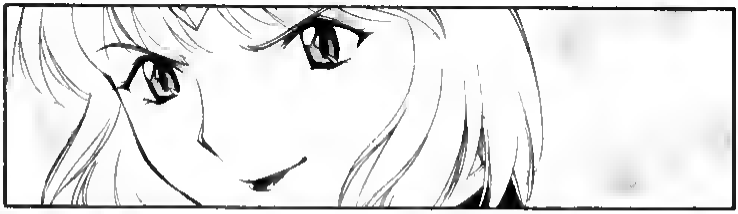
YOU'VE PUT A LOT OF THOUGHT INTO THIS, HAVEN'T YOU?
YES
FEIA LAFIEL COULD ONE DAY BECOME THE SPUNEJ
WHEN THAT DAY COMES, I HOPE SHE CAN REFLECT BACK ON HER DAYS HERE AND ACKNOWLEDGE THAT SHE WAS TAUGHT WELL
click
I CAN'T ALLOW HER TO DIE STILL A CHILD!
RONYU YALULUG DRIL.
PLEASE WATCH OVER THE FEIA LALTONEL
I CAN'T IMAGINE A SITUATION WHERE HER HIGHNESS WOULD HAVE TO DEPEND ON ME
BUT IF THE TIME COMES, I'LL DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO PROTECT HER!


Bawoosh
MAY THEIR TRIP BE A QUIET ONE
THERE THEY GO
Beep
Beep Beep
THE FELIA IS SPLITTING INTO ITS OWN SPACE-TIME

AND PERHAPS THIS IS FATE
BRINGING THEM TOGETHER MAY BE THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA.
THEY COULD GROW INTO HEROES OF THE EMPIRE
Lander Imperial in name only
INDEED
THEY ARE BOTH QUITE IMPORTANT PEOPLE
PERHAPS THEY ALREADY ARE
Typical Abh
...BUT ONLY IF THEY REACH THE CAPITAL SAFELY.
ANNOUNCE OUR PRESENCE AND ASK FOR THEIR IDENTIFICATION
AYE!
WE'RE WITHIN HAILING RANGE OF THE UNIDENTIFIED FRIGATE!
THAT CONFIRMS IT.
THEY ARE ISSUING AGA IZOFOT!
THEY ARE
WE HAVE A RESPONSE

ALL PERSONNEL, REPORT TO YOUR BATTLE STATIONS!
GO TO YOGODZVOS KASNA IMMEDIATELY!
THE UNIDENTIFIED FRASAS HAVE CLEARLY TAKEN A HOSTILE POSITION!
Fssh
PREPARE TO LAUNCH HOKSAS!
THE MINES ARE IN POSITION!
WIDE FORMATION!
RELEASE HOKSAS!
POSITION THEM IN OUR FRASAS!
CHARGING HOKSAS SEVEN THROUGH TEN WITH ANTI-MATTER--COMPLETE!
CON-FIRMED!!
WOOSH

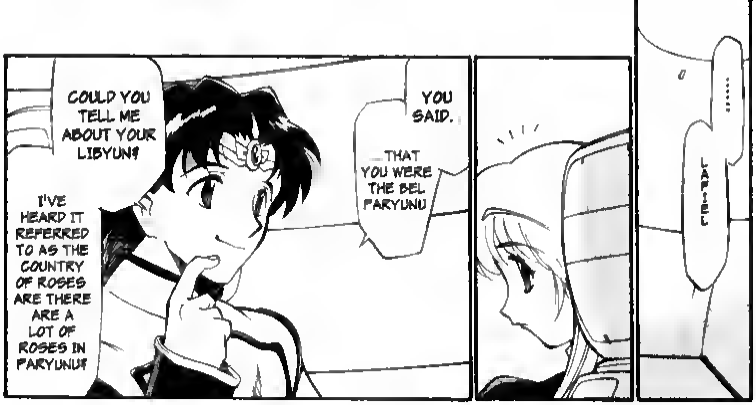
AIM MINES SEVEN AT THREE, EIGHT AT ONE, NINE AT SIX, AND TEN AT SEVEN
ACTIVATE THE HOKSAS!
A TEXTBOOK ATTACK FORMATION.
THE ENEMY IS MOVING FAST.
MY PRECIOUS CREW!
IT BEGINS!
SABO LUGA!
HOKSAS!
Whoosh
Fssh



The names of the twenty three crewmembers on that vessel were remembered throughout the long war as its first casualties

As Mine One hit the space-time cluster the United Mankind's Peace Preservation Army Ship KEO3799 was destroyed

IT'S BEEN TWO DAYS
I WONDER HOW THE BATTLE WENT
.....


COULD YOU TELL ME ABOUT YOUR LIBYUN?
I'VE HEARD IT REFERRED TO AS THE COUNTRY OF ROSES ARE THERE ARE A LOT OF ROSES IN PARYUNU?
YOU SAID.
THAT YOU WERE THE BEL PARYUNU
.....
LAPIEL

THE MAN WHO SURVEYED THE REGION LOVED FLOWERS AND THEREFORE GAVE FLORAL NAMES TO THE TERRITORIES
NO.
YOU WON'T FIND ANY FLOWERS THERE

ISN'T IT?
THAT'S BEAUTIFUL.
.....
ONE DAY I MAY MAKE THE COUNTRY APPROPRIATE TO ITS NAME AFTER I'M RELIEVED AS FASENZEL.
I WANT TO COVER THE LAND WITH ROSES AND WATCH THEM BLOOM.

I CAN'T SAY I FEEL BETTER, BUT THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONCERN
YOU'RE ATTEMPTING TO COMFORT ME
I WANT TO THANK YOU
YES?
JINTO?

I'M...
DON'T BE.
I THANK YOU.
SORRY I'M NOT USEFUL.

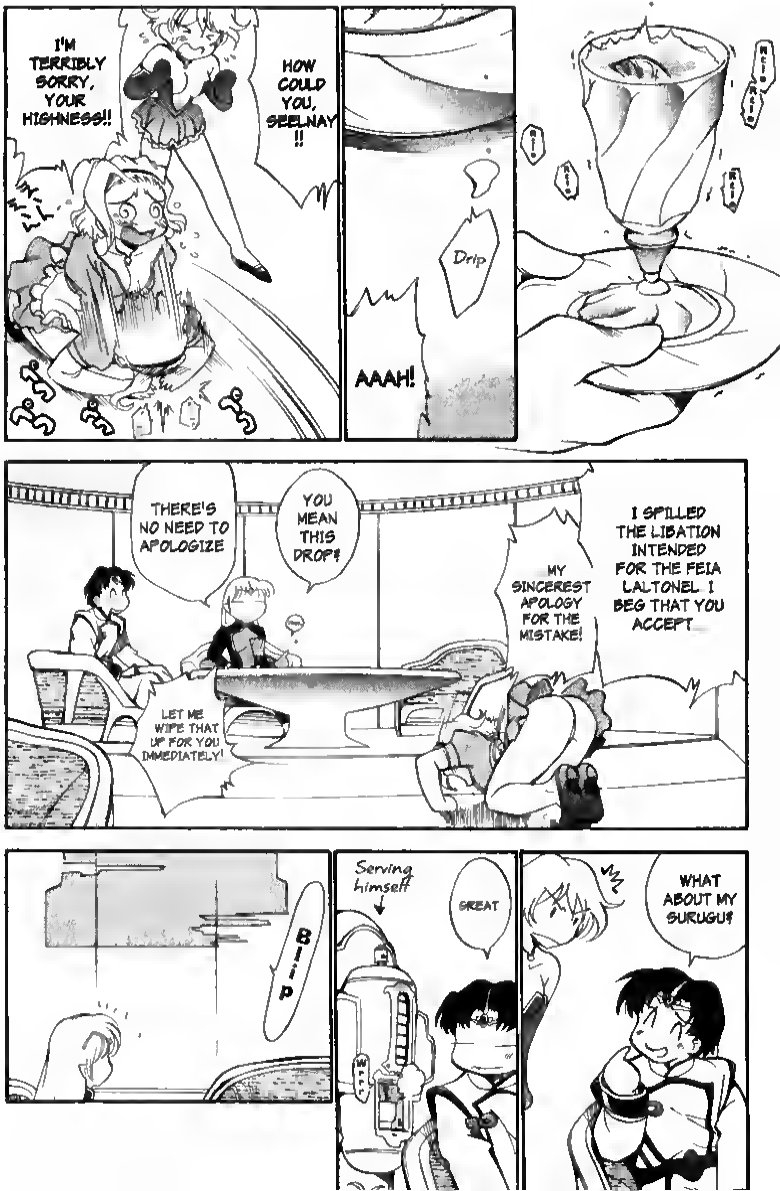
.....
IS MY LIFE NOT IMPORTANT ENOUGH?
YOU'VE BEEN REALLY HELPFUL TO ME. I ONLY HAVE YOU TO RELY ON.
YOU'RE TOO HARD ON YOURSELF.
HUH?
...ASHAMED. I WAS USELESS AT SUCH AN IMPORTANT TIME.
GRR

IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT THE GOSROTH, I'M SURE THEY'RE ALL RIGHT
RIGHT
THAT IS TRUE
YOU SHALL FORGIVE ME

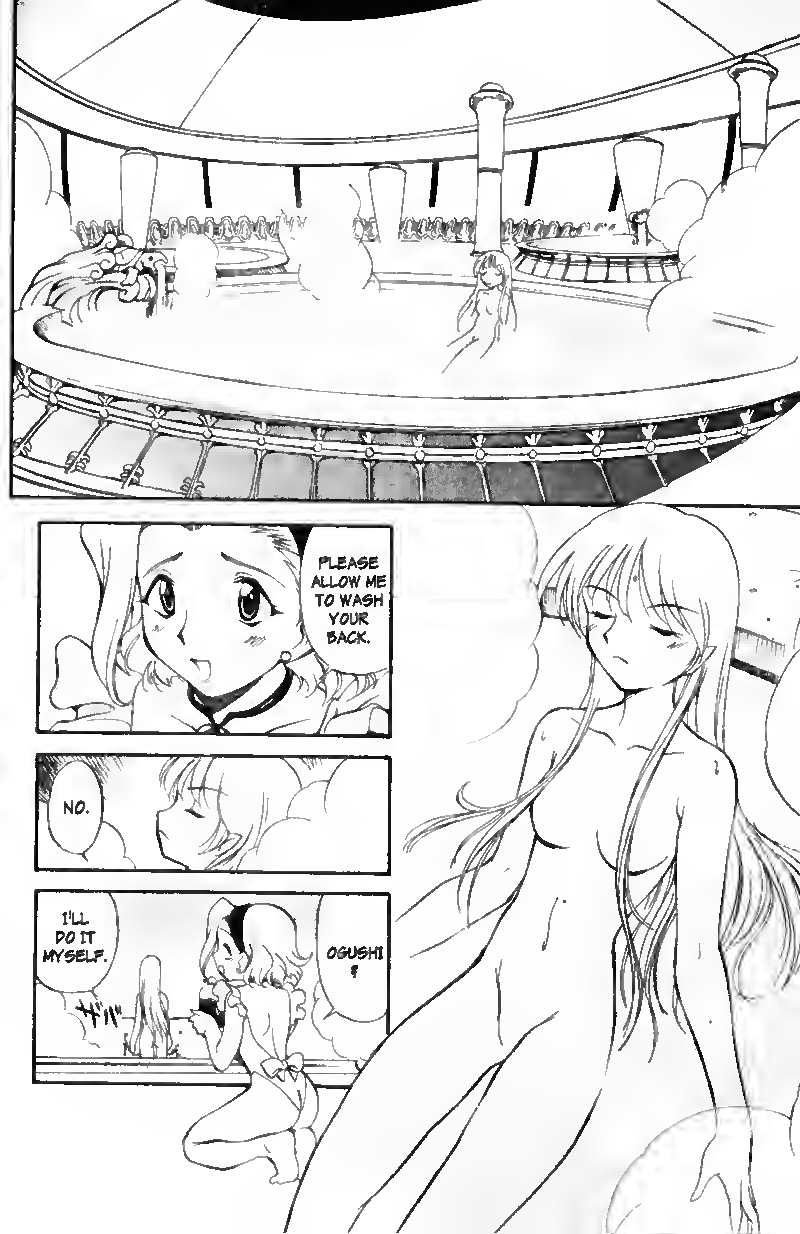
IF EVERYTHING GOES ACCORDING TO PLAN WE WILL STILL BE TWENTY SEVEN HOURS AHEAD OF THE ENEMY!
IT'LL TAKE THIRTY MINUTES
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO REFUEL BEFORE WE GET TO SUFUGNOF
THIS IS THE TERRITORY OF KUMUSKO FEEDASH
BECAUSE THIRTY MINUTES WOULD BE PLENTY OF TIME FOR THAT TOO
DID YOU SAY YOU WANTED TO DIE?
WHAT WAS THAT, JINTO?
Grrr...
...AND WASH THAT ROYAL STINK OFF YOU!
THIRTY MINUTES? GREAT! TIME TO GRAB A QUICK SHOWER...
Ha ha
WELL...
...YOU MAY HAVE A POINT.
Whew!
DON'T REALLY ?!
IT...
IT WAS JUST A JOKE.
YOU DON'T REALLY SMELL
N-NO!
YOU DON'T SMELL AT ALL!!

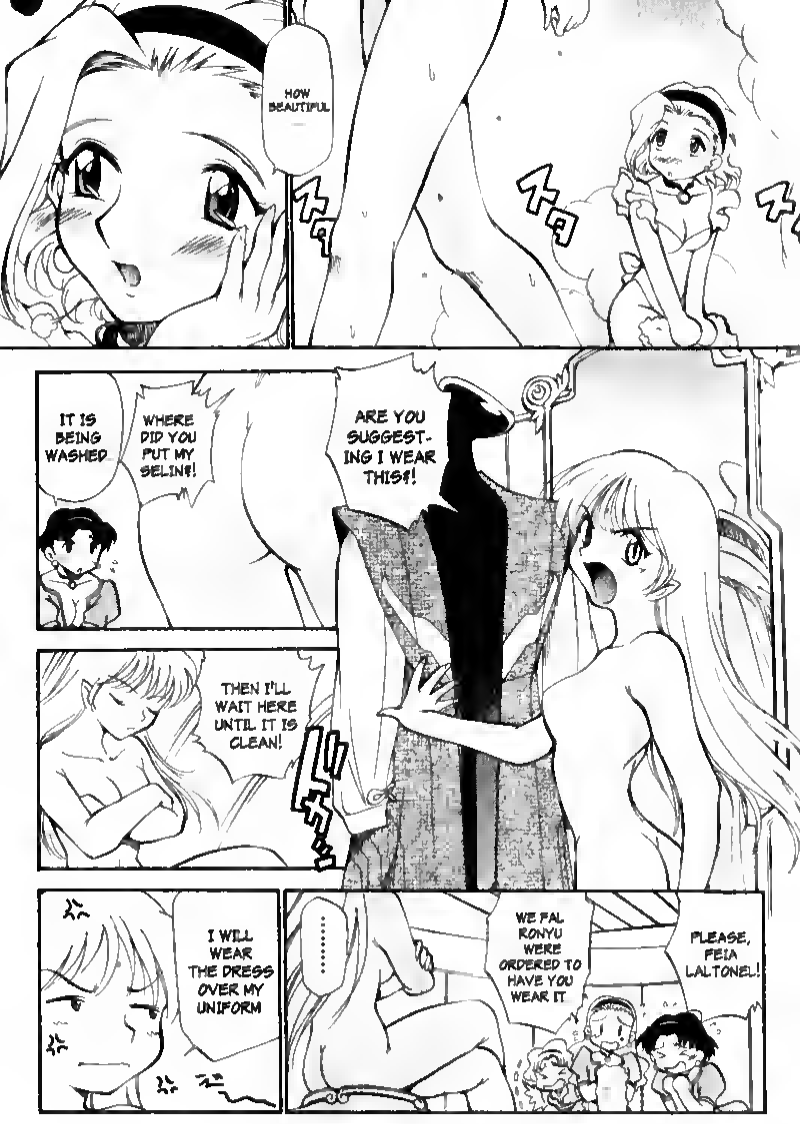
Roger
Oh!
Requesting a fuel dock
This is Bruse Rumsko Febdash
ATTENTION BRUSE RUMSKO FEBDASH PLEASE RESPOND
THIS IS THE TRANSFER SHUTTLE OF THE PATROL SHIP GOSROTH.
What's your name?
GEEZ EVEN OUT HERE EVERYONE RECOGNIZES LAFIEL!
Ugh! How embarrassing!
Fela Laltonell

FEIA LALTONEL!
WELCOME TO OUR TERRITORY
I WILL SHOW YOU TO THE GUEST QUARTERS.
AT PRESENT I AM ONLY A BENE RODAIL IN THE LABULE
I ASK THAT YOU TREAT ME AS SUCH
Y
YES.
PLEASE HURRY WITH THAT REFUEL
AND I'D ALSO LIKE TO AVAIL MYSELF OF A SHOWER
WE CANNOT ALLOW FASENZEL THE DISCOMFORT OF A SHOWER!
WE WILL SHOW YOU TO OUR OFFICIAL BATHING HALL.
WE ARE IN A HURRY, GOSK LAN!
AND THE IMPERIAL FAMILY IS NOT ABOVE TAKING SHOWERS
IT ISN'T?


I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, YOUR HIGHNESS!!
HOW COULD YOU, SEELNAY !!
Drip
AAAH!
THERE'S NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE
YOU MEAN THIS DROP?
I SPILLED THE LIBATION INTENDED FOR THE FEIA LALTONEL I BEG THAT YOU ACCEPT...
MY SINCEREST APOLOGY FOR THE MISTAKE!
LET ME WIPE THAT UP FOR YOU IMMEDIATELY!
Bl-ip
Serving himself
GREAT
WHAT ABOUT MY SURUGU?

I'M KLOWAL, BARON ATOSRYUA SYUN ATOS FEBDASH IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU.
I'M SORRY FOR NOT GREETING YOU IN PERSON, YOUR HIGHNESS
I'LL REVEAL ALL AT DINNER TONIGHT.
Ah!
I'M AFRAID YOU CANNOT LEAVE ANYTIME SOON
YOUR HIGHNESS! SHIP IS ALSO IN DESPERATE NEED OF REPAIRS
REPAIRS ?!
WHAT REPAIRS ?!
I'VE JUST LEARNED THAT WE LACK THE FUEL YOU REQUIRE.
WHAT?!
NICE TO MEET YOU, BARON
FEIA LALTONEL, THERE IS SOMETHING FOR WHICH I MUST APOLOGIZE
Now she's mad
I DON'T LIKE THIS PLACE

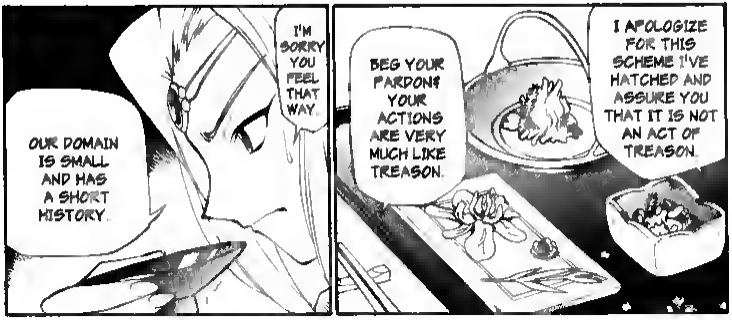

PLEASE ALLOW ME TO WASH YOUR BACK.
NO.
I'LL DO IT MYSELF.
"H"
"I"
OGUSHI ?

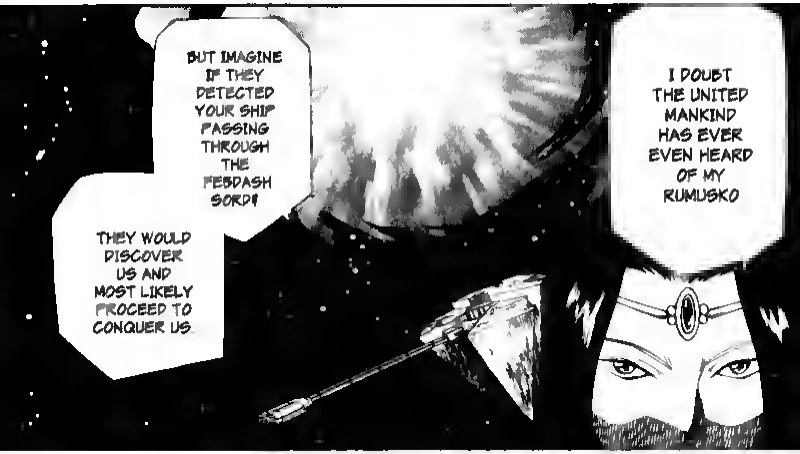

HOW BEAUTIFUL
ARE YOU SUGGESTING I WEAR THIS?!
WHERE DID YOU PUT MY SELINE!
IT IS BEING WASHED
THEN I'LL WAIT HERE UNTIL IT IS CLEAN!
I WILL WEAR THE DRESS OVER MY UNIFORM
.....
WE FAL RONYU WERE ORDERED TO HAVE YOU WEAR IT
PLEASE, FEIA LALTONE!

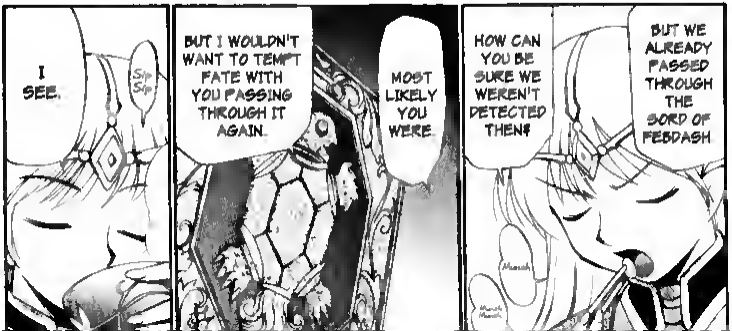
Hmph

WHERE'S JINTO?
RONYU YALULUG DRIL HYDAL IS BEING ENTERTAINED BY MY FATHER
WHY ISN'T YOUR FATHER JOINING US FOR DINNER?
MY FATHER DOESN'T ENJOY COMPANY
BUT YOU ENJOY MY COMPANY?
.....

THE ENEMY IS HEADED TOWARD LEPAHUNYU SUFUGANOM.
I AM ON A MILITARY MISSION AND HAVE NO TIME FOR FLEA-SANTRIES.
AH, YES...
I DID FIB ABOUT THOSE THINGS.
IS THERE REALLY A FUEL SHORTAGE?
ARE YOU SURE THE PELIA NEEDS REPAIR?
IN OTHER WORDS, WAIT UNTIL MY DOMAIN'S SAFETY IS ASSURED.
...WHY NOT WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT FURYU BAL SHUTTLE ARRIVES?
SO YOU'LL UNDERSTAND WHY I AM GOING TO BE LEAVING NOW.
ABOUT YOUR DEPARTURE, PEIA...


I'M SORRY YOU FEEL THAT WAY.
OUR DOMAIN IS SMALL AND HAS A SHORT HISTORY.
I APOLOGIZE FOR THIS SCHEME I'VE HATCHED AND ASSURE YOU THAT IT IS NOT AN ACT OF TREASON.
BEG YOUR PARDON? YOUR ACTIONS ARE VERY MUCH LIKE TREASON.


I DOUBT THE UNITED MANKIND HAS EVER EVEN HEARD OF MY RUMUSKO
BUT IMAGINE IF THEY DETECTED YOUR SHIP PASSING THROUGH THE FESDASH SORD!
THEY WOULD DISCOVER US AND MOST LIKELY PROCEED TO CONQUER US.


I SEE.
Sip Sip
BUT I WOULDN'T WANT TO TEMPT FATE WITH YOU PASSING THROUGH IT AGAIN.
MOST LIKELY YOU WERE.
HOW CAN YOU BE SURE WE WEREN'T DETECTED THEN?
BUT WE ALREADY PASSED THROUGH THE SORD OF FESDASH
Munch Munch

...YOUR PROTEST IS NOTED, BUT I MUST INSIST THAT YOU REMAIN HERE UNTIL THE ENEMY HAS LEFT THE AREA
SO, FEIA LALTONEL
AREN'T YOU WORRIED ...THAT THE FURYU BAL WILL RESCIND YOUR CONTROL OVER THIS LIBYUN? A LIBYUN YOU ARE PROTECTING?
YOU REALIZE YOU ARE PREVENTING ME FROM CARRYING OUT MY MISSION.
.....
MY ACTIONS ARE INTENDED TO PROTECT MY LIBYUN
THE SAKAS LAZASOT WILL CONSIDER THESE ACTIONS PROPER
THE YOUNG MAN DOESN'T DESERVE TO BE A SUIF. HE IS BEING TREATED IN A MANNER BEFITTING A LANDER
HOW IS JINTO, RYUF?

THEY'RE LIKE TRAINED MONKEYS
I'VE NEVER SEEN LEF AS SERVILE AS YOUR GOSK
ALSO, I UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE A PECULIAR BIAS AGAINST THE RANK OF LEF.
JINTO IS A SUIF!
YOU'RE RIGHT WHAT I REALLY WANT TO KNOW IS HOW YOU WOULD TREAT A LANDER
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A BARON AND HIS VASSALS IS OF NO CONCERN TO ANYONE ELSE NOT EVEN YOURS, FEIA.
I WOULD TREAT HIM AS I SAID... IN A MANNER BEFITTING HIS STATION

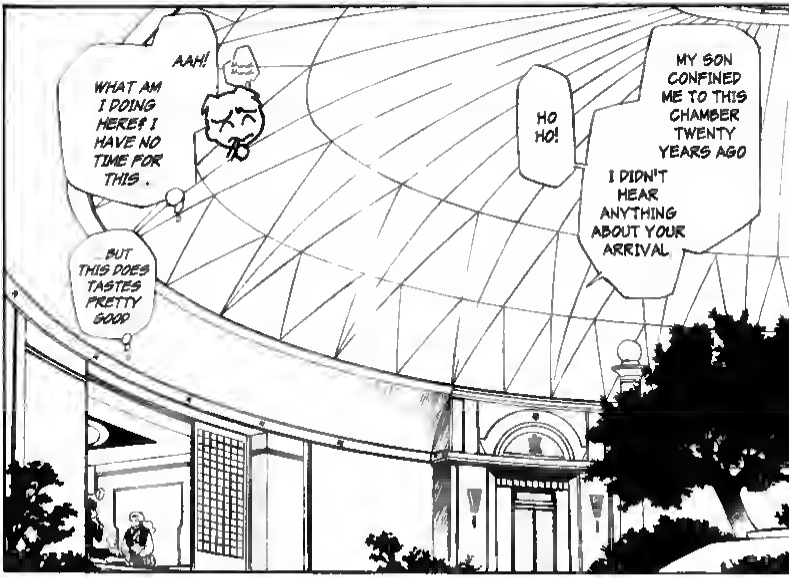
I WILL HAVE SOMEONE SHOW YOU TO YOUR ROOM.
ALSO, BARON...
...THERE ARE NO MALES AMONG YOUR GOSK.
NO.
I CANNOT STAND HAVING MALE LANDERS AROUND ME.
Smile
YET ANOTHER REASON TO DISLIKE YOU.

Frown
FRIGHTENING
A BEAUTIFUL SMILE OF SCORN AND DEFIANCE.
LIKE A POISONOUS FLOWER IN FULL BLOOM...
SO THAT'S THE ABH SMILE I'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT.
SO WHAT IF LALTONEL DOESN'T LIKE ME.
AND THIS IS MY DOMAIN!
I TOO AM ABH!
NO!
WHAT ARE YOU FRIGHTENED OF, KLOWAL?
MM MM MM...
Sharp
THEY WOULDN'T START A WAR, BUT...
...IF IT COMES TO THAT, I CAN USE HER AS A BARGAINING CHIP

OOH
YOU'RE AWAKE
WHERE ?
MUST'VE BRUISED IT WHEN THEY WERE GUIDING ME TO THE GOV.
OW WW ...
YOU'RE ...!

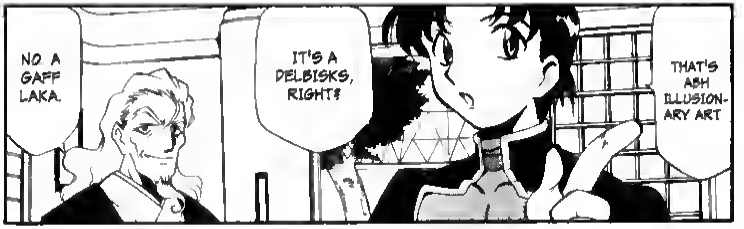
Chapter 3
Pride of the Abh

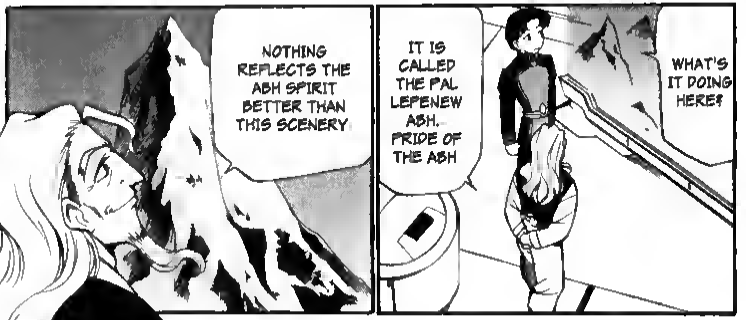
PAL LEPENEW


AAH!
WHAT AM I DOING HERE? I HAVE NO TIME FOR THIS.
BUT THIS DOES TASTES PRETTY GOOD
HO HO!
MY SON CONFINED ME TO THIS CHAMBER TWENTY YEARS AGO
I DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING ABOUT YOUR ARRIVAL

..IS THERE ANY WAY OUT OF THIS CHAMBER?
PLEASE, YOU'VE GOT TO TELL ME
HO HO!
THAT IS A GOOD THING FOR MY FAMILY
HER HIGHNESS HAS COME HERE

THE BOY IS ASHAMED.
LOCKED AWAY!
BUT WHY DOES HE KEEP HIS FATHER
NOPE
HE HAS A PROBLEM WITH LANDERS!
BUT HE WILL NOT KILL ME
HE CAN'T SEEM TO BEAR THAT OUR FAMILY'S HISTORY IS SHORT
AND HE WON'T FORGIVE THE FACT THAT I'M GENETICALLY A LANDER
Hmm
RIGHT NOW, I HAVE TO FIND A WAY OUT
SOME OTHER TIME
I CAN GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE ON RAISING CHILDREN


NO A GAFF LAKA.
IT'S A DELBISKS, RIGHT?
THAT'S ABH ILLUSION-ARY ART


NOTHING REFLECTS THE ABH SPIRIT BETTER THAN THIS SCENERY.
IT IS CALLED THE PAL LEPENEW ABH. PRIDE OF THE ABH
WHAT'S IT DOING HERE?

RECENTLY, THE ABH HAVE BEEN DISTRACTED BY TRIVIAL AFFAIRS, LOSING TOUCH WITH THEIR HUMAN ROOTS
STRIVE FOR LOFTY PEAKS AND TAKE PRIDE IN THE JOURNEY
THERE IS NO NEED TO DECLARE ONE'S MAJESTY-- SIMPLY BE MAJESTIC
?!
ARE YOU AND FEIA LALTONEL LOVERS?
The face of agitated contemplation
THAT EXPLAINS WHY LAFIEL DIDN'T UNDERSTAND MY NERVOUSNESS WHEN WE MET
?
I SEE WHAT?
AH! WELL YOU SEE
BUT YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE IN THE EMPIRE WHO CALLS HER BY NAME
NOT AT ALL!

THE LIGHTS!
Flash
Beep Beep
Now Now
Lafiel
Lafiel's thoughts turn to
JINTO!
I'M NOT A CHILD!
HE WANTS ME TO REST? HOW CAN I REST? HOW DARE HE ASSUME.

Beep Beep Beep
SHOW ME THE MAP OF THIS BASE
Beep
HMM
IT'S THE BARON
Beep
I WANT TO MEET THE RONYU LOOM LEKA
That is not permitted without the approval of the fal suif
SHOW ME WHERE HE IS
THE RYUF'S FATHER SHOULD BE HERE.
Yes
.....
Fsssh
I WONDER IF I CAN MAKE IT TO THE FELIA WITHOUT A WEAPON!
I DON'T!
Please note that the fal suif is resting at this time. Do you wish to get approval?

FEIA LALTONEL!
YOU'RE THE GOSK SEELNAY.
I'M HONORED YOU REMEMBERED MY NAME!
YOU REMEMBERED THE NAME OF A LOWLY PERSON SUCH AS MYSELF.
PLEASE-- WAIT!
HOW ABOUT THIS
IF YOU NEED SOMETHING, I'LL GET IT FOR YOU!
RELEASE MY SHUTTLE FROM LOCK DOWN AND HELP ME FIND JINTO.
UM...
OH! THAT LANDER WEARING THE SUIT OUTFIT!

THE RYUF IS KEEPING ME FROM MY DUTIES
HE'S PROBABLY GOING TO USE ME AS A BARGAINING CHIP WHEN THE BULVOS GOS SUYUN REACH THIS TERRITORY
NO!
OUR FAL SUIF #!
YOU DIDN'T KNOW#
SO. WHAT WILL YOU DO#
.....
I SEE
HUH#
YOU ARE THE RYUF'S GOSK AND AT THE SAME TIME A CITIZEN OF THE LUE LEF
WOULD YOU RATHER SERVE THE RYUF OR ACT IN THE SERVICE OF THE EMPIRE#
I WILL ABIDE BY YOUR ORDERS, FEIA LALTONEL!

I'm terribly sorry to disturb your rest
This is Grieda
Pi-P Pash
!!
We have an intruder in the docking bay
Huh?
WHAT IS THAT?
IT'S THE DOCKING HATCH
IT STILL WORKS, BUT IT LEADS TO OPEN SPACE

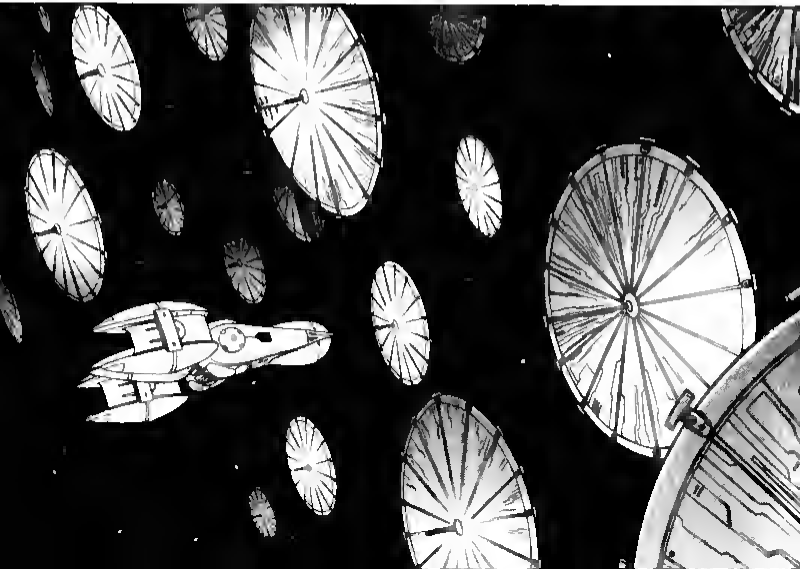
WE HAVE NO PRESSURE SUITS WE WOULDN'T SURVIVE
HEY! WE HAVE A WAY OUT!
THE SPACEPORT IS TOO FAR
IF THE UNITED MANKIND'S FLEET IS INDEED OUT THERE WE WOULDN'T MAKE IT PAST THE FIRST OUTPOST
BUT YOU DON'T HAVE THE EXTENDED LIFESPAN OF THE ABH. YOU SHOULD HAVE A LIFE WHILE..
BU.. BUT ..
AND FURTHER-MORE, I LIKE THE LEISURE TIME I HAVE HERE. ABH ARE SATISFIED IN THE FAR REACHES OF SPACE
I'M SORRY
THINK NOTHING OF IT
STOP BEING SO NEGATIVE!!
FIGURE IT OUT LATER! YOU CAN'T GET BY THE UNITED MANKIND, SHORT OF SOME FORM OF DIVINE INTERVENTION!
WE'LL FIGURE THAT OUT LATER! FIRST, WE ATTACH THE FELIA TO THE HATCH!
BNNN BNNN

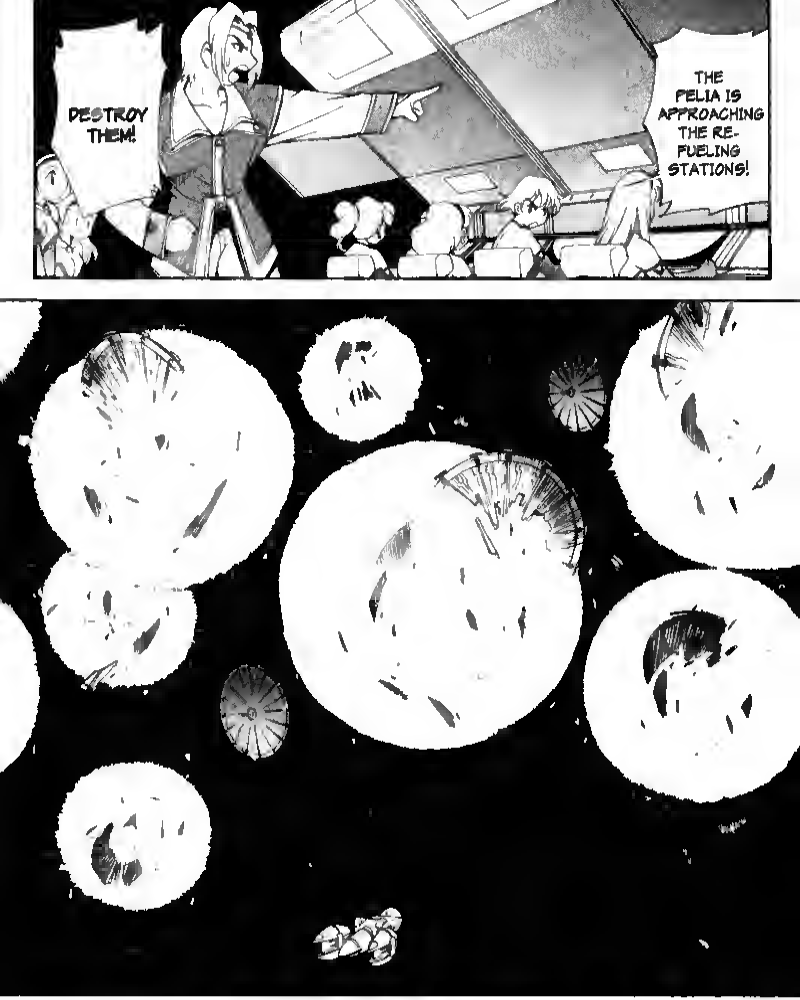
JINTO!
JINTO, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
WHAT'S GOING ON, SEELNAY?
WELL, ARISA.
LAFIEL! WHERE ARE YOU?
I'm in the servants quarters
But I can't open the Elder Ryut chamber from he
Fela Lallone!!
JUST HANG TIGHT!
YES
I'LL BE THERE SOON
I'll be waiting
COULD YOU BRING THE FELIA UP TO IT?
THERE'S A DOCKING HATCH IN THE CEILING

SEELNAY, YOU TRAITOR!
HUH?
YOU'RE POINTING WEAPONS AT THE FEIA LALTONEL!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
OOOH.
FEIA LALTONEL, I AM TRULY BLESSED!
LEF SEELNAY IS UNDER MY PROTECTION!
Fwip
HMPH.

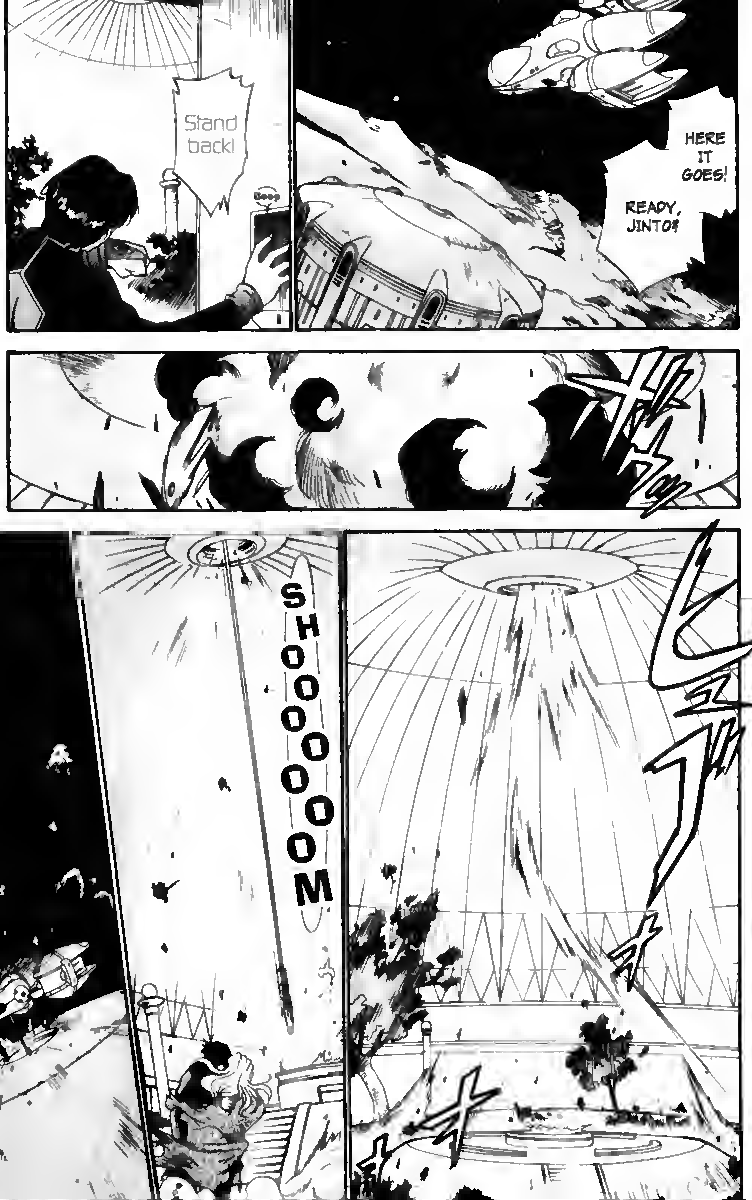
ARE YOU CHALLENGING ME, BARON?
BUT MY FATHER--
YOU WILL LET JINTO GO
FEIA LALTONEL, YOU'RE OVERSTEP-PING YOUR AUTHORITY
DESPITE MY WARM WELCOME
.....
I SIMPLY ORDERED YOU TO RELEASE MY COMPANION!
I DIDN'T ASK TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR FAMILY.
HMPH.
ENOUGH!
I'M AN ABH VAL SUIT! I WILL NOT SUBMIT TO THREATS!

I WILL FOLLOW THE FEIA LALTONEL.
.....
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
SEELNAY FEIA LALTONEL, GOSK ARISA WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US
GOOD
LET'S GO.
THANK YOU.




DESTROY THEM!
THE FELIA IS APPROACHING THE RE-FUELING STATIONS!

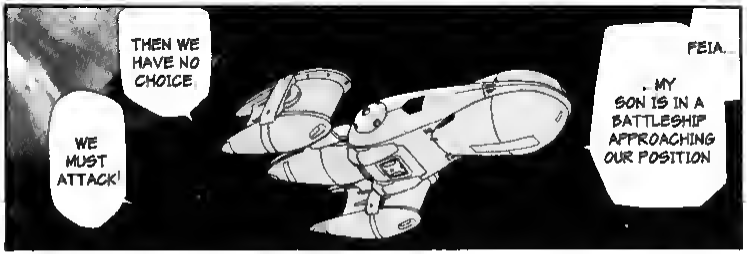
YOU DESTROYED ALL THE ANTI-MATTER FUEL...JUST LIKE AN ASH.
GOOD JOB, RYUF FEBDASH.


Stand back!
Beep
HERE IT GOES!
READY, JINTO!
SHOOOOOOM

WHY INDEED ARE ABH DRAWN TO THE VACUUM OF SPACE?
SIGH
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
LAFIEL!
SO.. YOU SEE HOW HIGHLY THE FEIA LALTONEL VALUES ME
CLEARLY
IT WOULD BE A SHAME IF YOU WERE DAMAGED
YOU'RE A VALUABLE PIECE OF CARGO
JINTOOO !!!!

...BECAUSE I INTEND TO KILL HIM!!
IF I COULD HAVE A WORD WITH HIM...
I'M SORRY BUT I CAN'T LET YOU DO THAT.
YOU'RE THE RYUF LEKA?
FEIA LALTONEL, IT SEEMS MY WICKED SON HAS CAUSED SOME TROUBLE.
YOUR SON HAS PUT MY ENTIRE MISSION IN JEAPORDY!
HE BLEW UP ALL OF THE REFUELING STATIONS..
...LEAVING US STRANDED IN SPACE!
HOLD ON...!
DID HE ALSO DESTROY THE ANTI-MATTER FUEL PLANT?!
THE PLANT?!
PLEASE LET ME TAKE THE CONTROLS
HEH
I CAN EASILY OVERRIDE THE LOGIC CRYSTAL IN THE MAIN COMPUTER.
WELL.... OKAY.

IT'S OKAY, IT'S OKAY.
JINTO!
BUT I'M SURE I CAN STILL STUMBLE THROUGH IT.
THE INTER-FACE SURE HAS CHANGED
Bweep
FEIA LALTONEL WON'T LET UP!
GRR
FATHER!
THE MAIN COMPUTER LOCKED UP!
FAL RONYU!
WE'VE LOST CONTROL OVER THE FUEL FACTORIES!
Hmm
SO FOR THE SAKE OF MY TERRITORY, I MUST BETRAY THE EMPIRE.
SHE IS INTENT ON KILLING ME.


FEIA...
. MY SON IS IN A BATTLESHIP APPROACHING OUR POSITION
THEN WE HAVE NO CHOICE
WE MUST ATTACK!

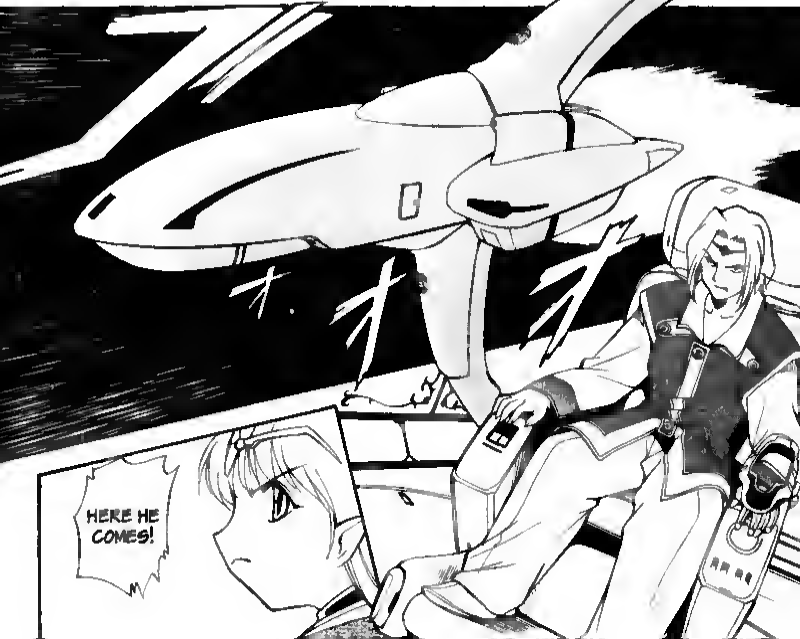
OF COURSE WE CAN FIGHT!
ALTHOUGH THE PROBABILITY OF WINNING IS LESS THAN TEN PERCENT.
YOU THINK YOU CAN INCREASE OUR ODDS?

LAFIEL!
THIS SHIP HAS NO WEAPONS!
WAIT A MINUTE!
THERE'S NO WAY TO FIGHT!

THE ASH WOULD RATHER FIGHT A HURRICANE THAN SURRENDER TO ITS WINDS. FOR HER, IT'S AN OBVIOUS CHOICE.
HO HO...
TYPICAL ASH LOGIC, YOUNG FANES.

I HAVE NO OPINION.
HMPH. I'M JUST CARGO.

IS THERE A PROBLEM WITH THAT?


HERE HE COMES!

Tik
Fssh
Pshoom
I'VE ONLY GOT ONE SHOT!
HE'S TOO FAST

NOW!
FULL STOP!
Pssss t
YOU PLAN ON RAMMING MY SHIP?!

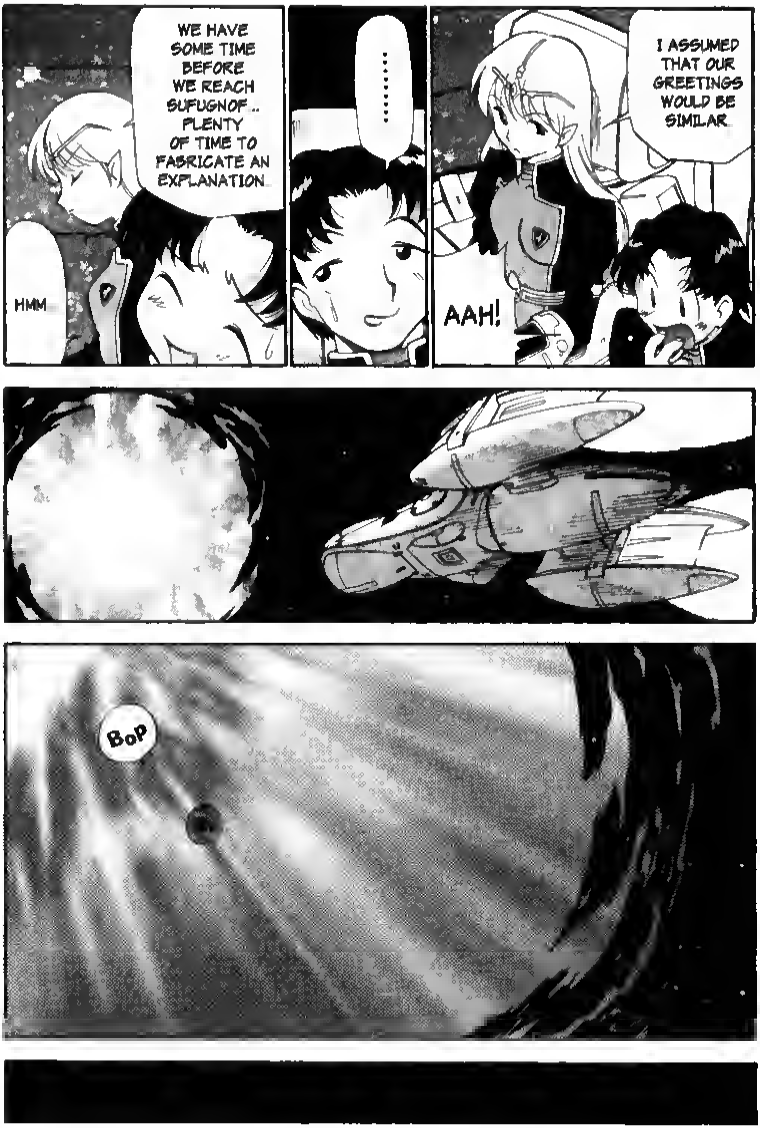
MY STUPID, STUPID SON
I HAD THE GOSK ADD ANTIMATTER TO HIS PROPELLANT
HIS CHANCES OF SURVIVAL ARE 0 PERCENT
IT'S OVER.
OVER?

YOU JUST KILLED A MAN!
DO YOU FEEL NOTHING?!
CASUALTIES!
RYLF LEKA, I'M SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS
BATTLES HAVE CASUALTIES, FEIA.
IF I DIDN'T KILL HIM, HE WOULD HAVE KILLED US
I KNOW THAT! BUT STILL, I--
--A LITTLE MORE COMPASSION
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? I RESPONDED JUSTLY TO A THREAT
Huh?
THAT IS NOT A CRIME!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
YOU TAKE LIFE SO LIGHTLY--
I DO NOT TAKE LIFE LIGHTLY!!

IS THIS TRUE, JINTO?
?
YOU JUST DIDN'T WANT TO SEE THE FEIA LALTONEL TAKE A LIFE, RIGHT?
THERE IS NO NEED TO FEEL UPSET.
BUT...
THAT'S ENOUGH, YOUNG FANEB.
THEN WHY OBJECT?
UMMMM...
NOT AT ALL! JUST THINK IF WE HAD LOST!
ARE YOU UPSET THAT I WON THE BATTLE?
IT WAS HIM OR US.
I KNOW THAT.
I ACCEPT YOUR APOLOGY
YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL
YES... THANK YOU
.....
SORRY.
YOU ARE A BOSNAL AND SHOULDN'T BE ASHAMED TO FIGHT.
THANK YOU FOR PROTECTING ME.

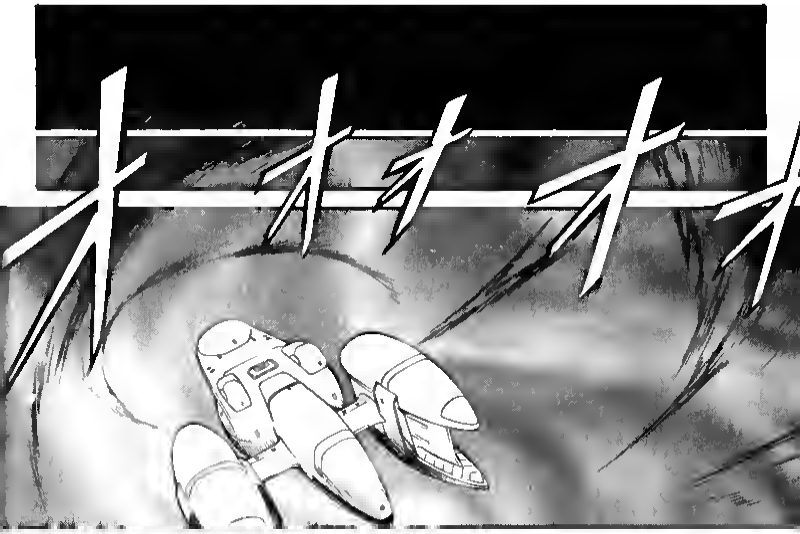
THE FAL RONYU DIED IN BATTLE!!
I ask that you wait for me until then
I will return and reward your loyalty
PEIA LALTONEL ...
To the lue lef who aided me you have my eternal gratitude
IT'S TRUE!!
...EVEN IF I HAVE TO FLY THROUGH THE HEART OF AN INTERSTELLAR BATTLE!
THAT'S MY MISSION!
WE'RE GOING TO SUFUGNOF...

HUH?
AND COME BEFORE THE TWO OF YOU HAVE CHILDREN.
FARE-WELL, YOUNG FANEB
COME VISIT AGAIN IF YOU'RE GIVEN THE CHANCE
I'D LIKE TO HEAR ALL ABOUT THE DRIL HYDAL
I'D LIKE TO TELL YOU
WELL THEN, RYUF LEKA UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN
AND WE WILL, FEIA.
HUH?
IT'S A GREET-ING.
JINTO!
YOU LOCKED HANDS WITH THE RYUF LEKA WHEN YOU SAID GOODBYE.
WHY? IS THAT SOME KIND OF FORMALITY?

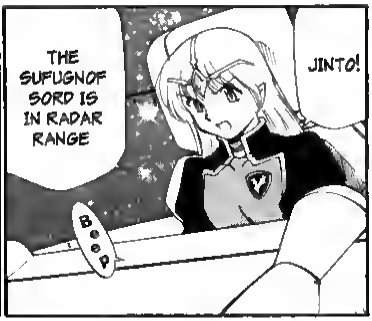

WE HAVE SOME TIME BEFORE WE REACH SUFUGNOF.. PLENTY OF TIME TO FABRICATE AN EXPLANATION.
HMM
.....
I ASSUMED THAT OUR GREETINGS WOULD BE SIMILAR.
AAH!
Bop

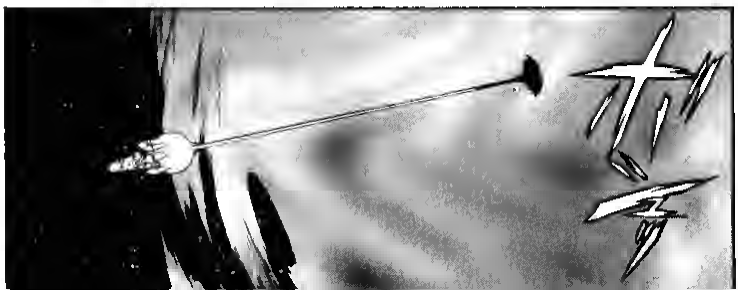
Chapter 4
Planet Clasbul

NAHENU CLASBUL



--WAIT! ARE THOSE HOKSAS?
IS IT AS BAD--
DON'T WORRY
WE WILL BE THROUGH BEFORE ANYONE IS THE WISER!
Beep


THE SUFUGNOF SORD IS IN RADAR RANGE
JINTO!
B●●P



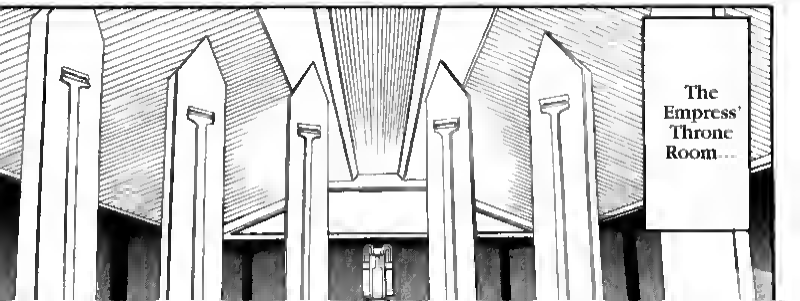
This is Sufugnof Base Pil Orokronid What is your status Pelia?
Lut Labule, please respond!
This is Pelia One from the Lesui Gosroth
The Lesui Gosroth encountered unidentified hreseas in area Iloum 533. We docked here ahead of with the Gosroth logbook and a civilian
Requires inspection
Transfer shuttle, we cannot allow you to enter the ronid.
Proceed on you own!

DOES HE THINK THEY'RE GOING TO DIE!
However..
may the Empire be glorious!
That's small comfort
ROGER!
WE WILL PROCEED ON OUR OWN SASOT!
I .I'M SORRY
A LONE RONID DROK CANNOT WITHSTAND A FULL ASSAULT!
OF COURSE HE DOES!
THEY HAVE LIMITED PERSONNEL OUT HERE!
pik go shek.
Pan dong cuo kos
GREAT! MORE GOOD NEWS.
THERE'S A SHIP IN FRONT OF US!
THEY'LL OPEN FIRE IF WE DON'T STOP!

Kuu rin map as tang kipl
WHAT'D THEY SAY?
THEY CAN'T SAY THAT ABOUT MY MOTHER!
AAAAAH!
NO CHOICE
WE'LL HAVE TO LAND ON THE PLANET
WHAT?!
CAN THIS THING EVEN LAND?!
I DON'T KNOW! THIS IS MY FIRST LANDING!!

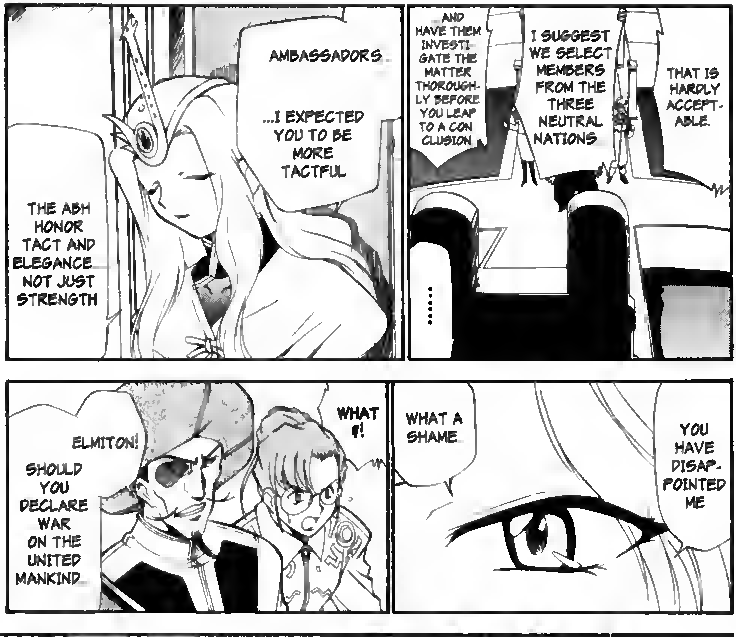
I'M SURE I MENTIONED IT
I'VE NEVER BEEN TO A SURFACE WORLD
F...
FIRST?!
WHICH CONCERNS YOU MORE?
THE LANDING, OR THE SURFACE WORLD?
BOTH!!

Lakfakalle-
Capital of
the Abh
Empire


The
Empress'
Throne
Room...

Janet McCarry–
Ambassador
The People's
Sovereign Union
of Planets
Sample Sangalini–
Ambassador
United Mankind
Gwen Tauron–
Ambassador
The Federation
of Hania
Malinba
Soon Hee–
Ambassador
The Republic of
Greater Alcont
Ramaj–
27th Empress of
the Abh Empire

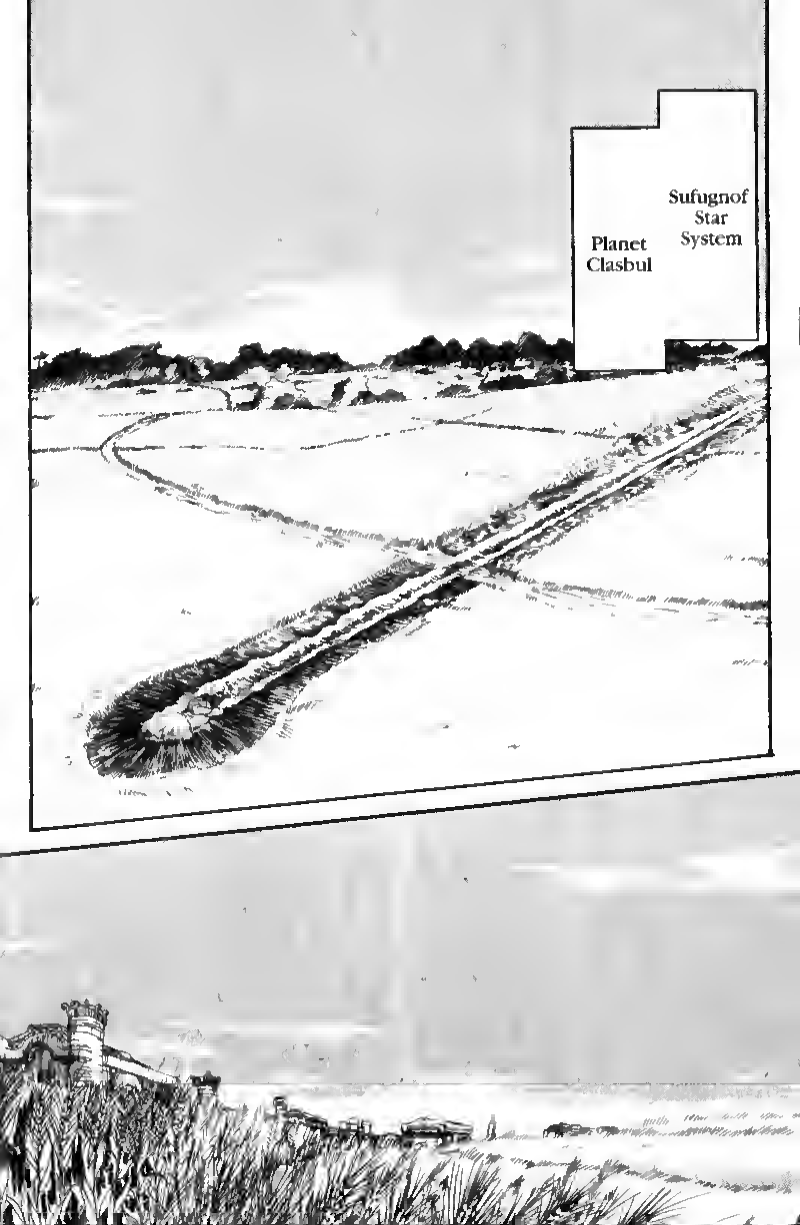
WE, THE UNITED MANKIND, WILL NOT TOLERATE SUCH AN ATTACK.
WE WERE ABLE TO DRIVE THE WARSHIP BACK, BUT AT GREAT COST.
...WHEN WE WERE ATTACKED WITHOUT WARNING BY WHAT WE BELIEVE TO BE AN IMPERIAL WARSHIP.
OUR COUNTRY HAD JUST OPENED A NEW SORD IN PLANE SPACE...
WE CALL UPON YOU TO CEASE.
ESPECIALLY FROM THE PROFESSED PROTECTORS OF THESE REGIONS.
THESE HOSTILITIES TOWARD THE TERRITORIES MUST END.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!
IT IS CLEAR THAT THIS PROTEST IS A FARCE.
AMBASSADORS.
FURTHERMORE, IF IT HAD OPENED FIRE UPON YOUR UNMOBILIZED UNITS, IT WOULD NOT HAVE LOST
YOU CLAIM THAT OUR PROUD LABULE WARSHIP OPENED FIRE, BUT I REFUSE TO BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A SINGLE ABH SOLDIER THAT WOULD ATTACK YOUR FORCES UNPROVOKED


AMBASSADORS...
...I EXPECTED YOU TO BE MORE TACTFUL
THE ABH HONOR TACT AND ELEGANCE NOT JUST STRENGTH
AND HAVE THEM INVESTIGATE THE MATTER THOROUGHLY BEFORE YOU LEAP TO A CONCLUSION
I SUGGEST WE SELECT MEMBERS FROM THE THREE NEUTRAL NATIONS
THAT IS HARDLY ACCEPTABLE.
.....
WHAT!
ELMITON!
SHOULD YOU DECLARE WAR ON THE UNITED MANKIND
WHAT A SHAME
YOU HAVE DISAPPOINTED ME
SHOULD WE WIN, IT WILL BE THE LAST WAR HUMANKIND MUST EVER FACE.
Swip
VERY WELL.
THEN IT IS WAR.
WE, THE SOVEREIGN UNION OF PLANETS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NOVA SICILY TREATY, MUST DECLARE WAR ON YOU!

!!
Strut strut
ELMITON
YOU DO REALIZE YOU WILL BE AT WAR WITH HALF OF HUMANKIND?!
THE EMPIRE CANNOT WIN!!
IDEALS...
THEY CAN MAKE AN INDIVIDUAL SHINE.
BUT WHEN THE PEOPLE OF A NATION BECOME ENTANGLED IN THEM, THEY USUALLY SUFFER A MISERABLE DEFEAT.
THE EMPIRE HAS NO ROOM FOR SUCH IDEALS!
THE ABH CAN CELEBRATE THEIR LIVES AND CULTURE, BUT THE REST OF HUMANKIND SUFFERS FROM A SURFEIT OF IDEALS
HUMANKIND HAS DREAMT OF IT, BUT THUS FAR HAS NEVER EXPERIENCED IT.
PERMANENT PEACE.

...THERE WERE NO ABH IN THE PAST.
REMEMBER
We have it on strong authority that they have been secretly probing the area for years
I believe we should send in the military before continuing communications with Vorash and Sufugnof
The sord will most likely open

IT WAS AN ERROR
But they didn't anticipate this.
Y-
DID CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE KNOW ABOUT THE SPIES
TO SEIZE THE INITIATIVE AND PROCEED TO BATTLE IN ABRIEL FASHION
IT WOULDN'T BE EXCESSIVE
There's a nine percent possibility it was the Gosroth
What is your judgement?
ALSO, THE ENEMY DESTROYED A WARSHIP?
BUT
I HOPE LAFIEL ALSO TOOK INITIATIVE LIKE A PROPER RODAIL AND ESCAPED THE BATTLEFIELD


Sufugnof
Star
System
Planet
Clasbul

We free humans must return to our legitimate social status as independent from Abh control
All hail the United Mankind for the freedom and justice it has won
The United Mankind has liberated you from the reign of the Abh Empire.
BUT I LIKE BLUE!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT?
IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO DYE YOUR HAIR BLUE
HALT.
HEY! STOP!
We the United Mankind are here to keep the peace. Please tell your family and friends to cease any Abh traditions and abandon any Abh icons. You must maintain acceptable human behavior
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING ME!
Shuffle
FREE CITIZENS ARE PROHIBITED FROM EMULATING THE ABH.

LAFIEL!
LAFIEL, I'M BACK.
Zzzz

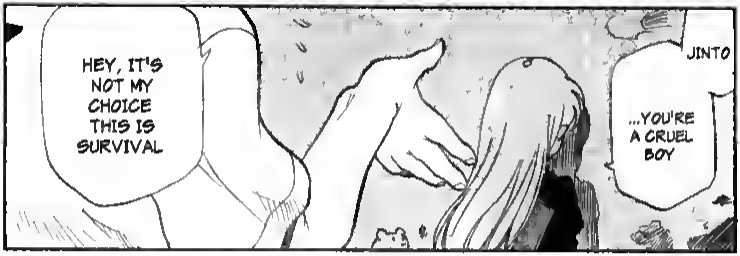
SHE'S SLEEPING SOUNDLY
ZZZZZ
THAT'S A RELIEF
SHE WAS SO FRUSTRATED TO HAVE TO LIVE LIKE A LANDER WHEN WE FIRST ARRIVED
HHH
JINTO! THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH MY EYES! I CAN'T SEE THE STARS CLEARLY!
THAT'S HOW THEY LOOK FROM THE SURFACE OF A PLANET!
MONEY ?
BUT WE HAVE GOOD SKUL
IMPERIAL SKUL ARE NO GOOD HERE. THE PLANET IS OCCUPIED BY THE ENEMY!
SHE'S SO NAIVE.
IT'S UP TO ME TO.
HAHA.

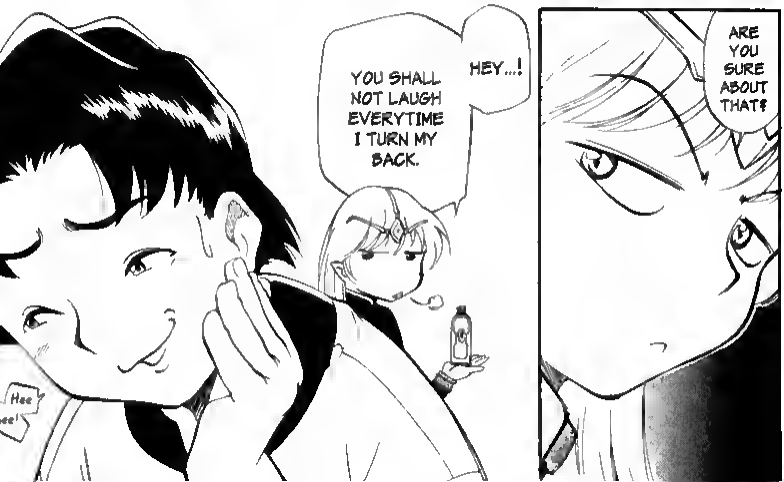
WHERE DID YOU GET THOSE CLOTHES?
OH...
IT'S ME...!
LAFIEL!
IT'S ABOUT TIME WE MOVED INTO TOWN.
WE'LL NEED TO DISGUISE YOU.
WHAT ABOUT MONEY?
AND WE'RE OUT OF FOOD.
WE CAN'T WAIT FOREVER FOR THE LABULE TO RESCUE US.
I FOUND THEM NEAR TOWN.
It's not appealing.
YOU'VE BEEN PRETTY ENERGETIC SINCE WE'VE ARRIVED ON THE SURFACE.
I WANT YOU TO WEAR THIS
HMPH
I SOLD THE LONG ABEZ DAUSH YOU GOT FROM THE BARON.

WILL THEY FIT OVER MY SELIN?
THESE DAUSH ARE SO STRANGE LOOKING
YOU WANT ME TO WEAR THIS?!
JUST THIS!!
. THAT'S NOT A DAUSH.
UM...
..UH..
THIS IS HAIR DYE
AND THIS IS KINDA HARD TO SAY BUT...
HEY, I THINK IT'S REALLY BEAUTIFUL!
YOU WANT ME TO DYE MY HAIR!!

IF THEY DISCOVER YOU'RE ABH, WE'LL BE IN EVEN MORE TROUBLE THAN WE ARE NOW
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?
I SHALL NOT DYE MY HAIR.
BUT IN TOWN, THEY'RE ARRESTING PEOPLE WITH BLUE HAIR
AAAA
WE NEED TO COVER YOUR HAIR COMPLETELY OR THEY'LL CATCH US
OKAY?
I CAN STILL SEE BLUE
BUT IF I USE THIS HAT, I WON'T NEED TO DYE MY HAIR!
YOU'RE RIGHT!
Fwish Fwish
KUU RIN MAP AS TANG KIP!
WELL, THAT'S NOT THE LANGUAGE OF A LADY
EVEN IF I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT.

.....
FINE!
I'LL DO IT!


HEY, IT'S NOT MY CHOICE THIS IS SURVIVAL
JINTO
...YOU'RE A CRUEL BOY


YOU SHALL NOT LAUGH EVERYTIME I TURN MY BACK.
HEY...!
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?
Hee hee!

IT LOOKS GREAT ON YOU, LAFIEL!
Hmmph
STOP LAUGH-ING ONYU!
COME ON, JUST FOLLOW ME
I'M THE ONLY ONE IN A HUNDRED LIGHT-YEARS THAT YOU CAN DEPEND ON RIGHT NOW. YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO TRUST ME
I REFUSE.

IT'S NOT OVER UNTIL I GET YOU TO THE CAPITAL.
I'M STILL ON A MISSION
?
AND THEN THERE'S THIS...
SO I'M STILL CARGO THEN...
HUH?
SHIVER
JINTO...
...DO YOU HAVE A BIRTH SECRET?

A MARRIED COUPLE?
WELL, MY MOTHER DIED SOON AFTER I WAS BORN.
MY FATHER'S JOB WAS SO DEMANDING THAT HE PLACED ME IN THE CUSTODY OF FOSTER PARENTS.
WE GROW CHILDREN IN AN ARTIFICIAL WOMB.
OH, THAT'S RIGHT
ABH DON'T BELIEVE IN THE INSTITUTION OF MARRIAGE
I see
BUT WE DO BELIEVE PEOPLE SHOULD DO WHAT THEY WISH
TRUE
Crunch Crunch
THAT IDEA SCARES LANDERS.
ABH MAKE CHILDREN LIKE THEY WOULD BREED PLANTS.
NOW THAT'S STRANGE TO US

BOTH LANDERS AND ABH GENERALLY DO WHAT THEY WANT.
Fsh
Fsh
Lafiel - Age 8
BUT MY FATHER WOULD NEVER TELL ME WHO SUPPLIED THE OTHER HALF OF MY GENES.
. IS TO ASK TO SHARE GENES. THE RESULT OF THIS IS A CHILD OF LOVE A FRYUM NEG
THE ULTIMATE EXPRESSION OF LOVE
BUT I KEPT ASKING HIM ABOUT IT.
UNTIL ONE DAY...
HE TAUGHT ME THAT BIRTH SECRETS ENRICH ONE'S CHARACTER.

MORRRRR
I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET YOUR OTHER GENE PARENT.
EH?
WHAT? IT'S POSSIBLE!
IT'S NOT A FORBIDDEN PRACTICE.
HA HA HA HA HA !!
HAH HAH HAH HAH !!
YOU DIDN'T BELIEVE THAT, DID YOU?

BUT DO YOU KNOW WHO...
...YOUR MOTHER IS?
I MEAN...
...WHO DID SUPPLY YOUR GENES?
YES, I KNOW HER.

HUH?
YOU KNOW HER AS WELL.
REALLY?
IT'S A PERSON I ADMIRE GREATLY.

Captain Lexshue

I AM VERY PROUD OF MY LINEAGE
I WAS THEIR FRYUM NEG
SALEL LEXSHUE WAS MY FATHER'S YOFU

YES.

YOU SHOULD BE, LAFIEL

.....

I'M SORRY

BUT THE GOSROTH ...
I KNOW, JINTO!

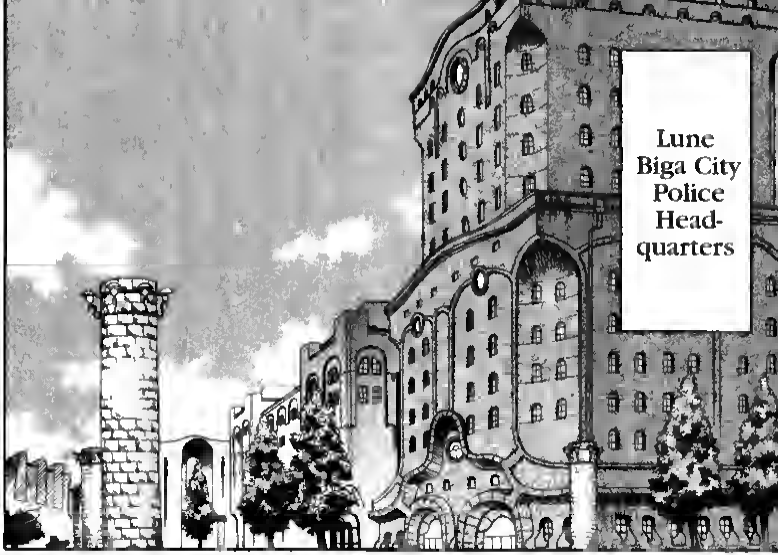
I APOLOGIZE FOR THE BURDEN I MUST BE TO YOU
LAFIEL!
IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO ME, YOU MUST ESCAPE WITH IT!
THIS IS THE GOSROTH'S LOGBOOK
Grab
SO WE HAVE TO DEPEND ON EACH OTHER TO STAY ALIVE
YOU ARE BY NO MEANS, AND NEVER WILL BE, A BURDEN TO ME
YOU'RE NOT ACCUSTOMED TO LIFE ON A SURFACE WORLD.
WE ALL HAVE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES
FOR INSTANCE, I CAN'T FLY A SHIP IN SPACE

LAFIEL?
DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?
YOU ARE A MAN OF TREMENDOUS HONOR
YOU SHALL FORGIVE ME, JINTO.

THANK YOU.

HEH HEH HEH.
HEH HEH HEH.
W-wish

Chapter 5
Collaboration Request
RAD OF OS LOFT


Lune Biga City Police Headquarters

HELLO! THIS IS
REST ASSURED. WE ARE LOGGING EVERY COMPLAINT!
THEY DID!
DID THE SOLDIERS ACTUALLY ENTER THE PREMISES?!
YES?
SOLDIERS CUT OFF YOUR SON'S HAIR?

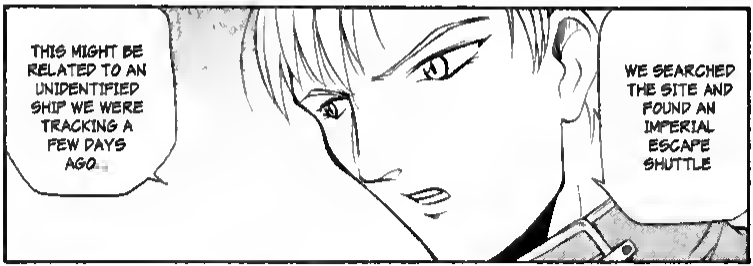
THEY'LL TEAR THIS TOWN TO PIECES!
Heh
PEACE FORCE! HA!

WHAT DO YOU WANT?
SUPER-INTENDENT AIZAN.
ENTRYUA HAS ARRIVED!

YOU'RE LATE
HELLO INSPECTOR ENTRYUA.
THIS IS LIEUTENANT KYTE OF THE UNITED MANKIND PEACE FORCE.

EXCUSE ME
Clap
GOOD TO MEET YOU, INSPECTOR.
FOR THE MOST PART
I TRUST YOU'VE BEEN BRIEFED ABOUT THE ASSAULT AND STOLEN CAR?
HA HA HA HA!
REPORTS SUGGEST THAT ONE OF THE ASSAILANTS IS ABH.

THOSE PUNKS COULDN'T TELL ABH SPEAK FROM BIRDSONG.
THE VICTIMS WERE A GROUP OF HOOLIGANS, RIGHT?


THIS MIGHT BE RELATED TO AN UNIDENTIFIED SHIP WE WERE TRACKING A FEW DAYS AGO...
WE SEARCHED THE SITE AND FOUND AN IMPERIAL ESCAPE SHUTTLE

AIZAN HAS THAT POLITICAL GRIN ON HE JUMPS IN BED WITH WHOEVER'S IN CHARGE.

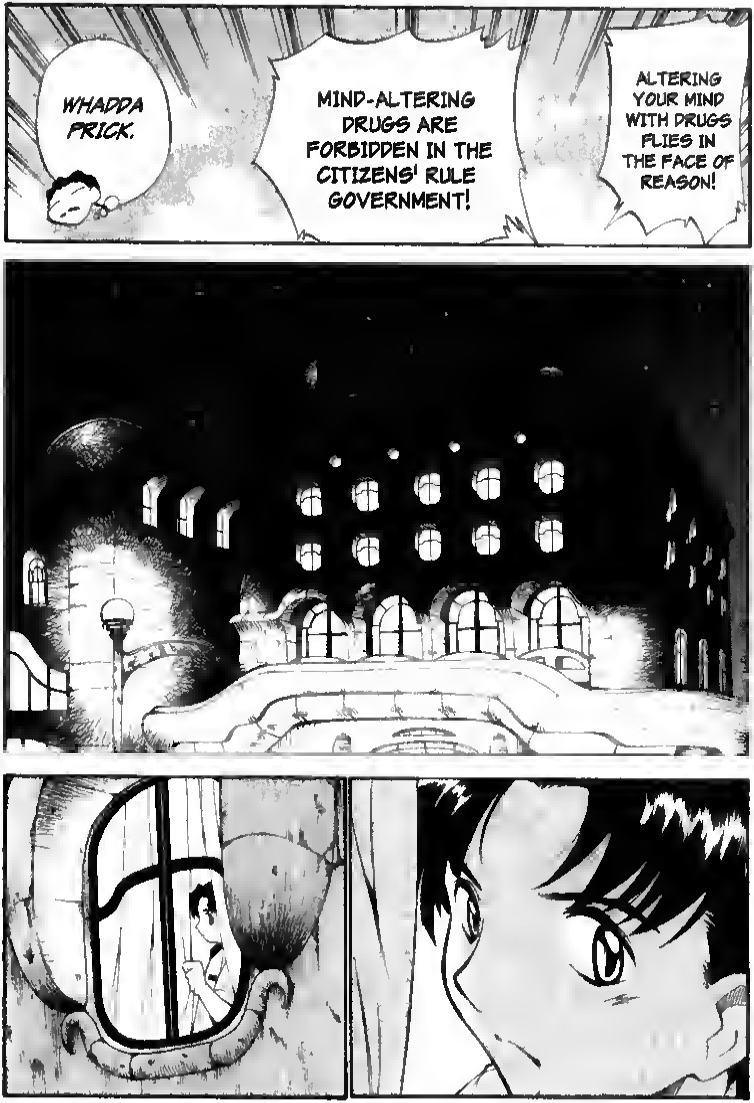
I'D FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE HEADING UP THIS CASE.
CAPTAIN.

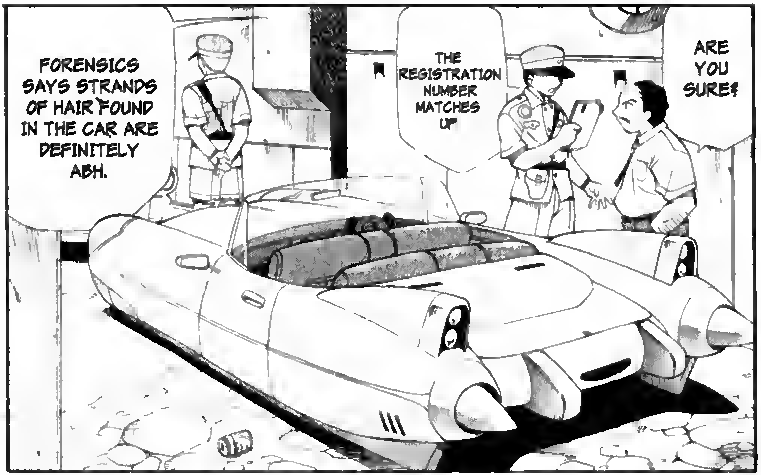
WHAT?

ENTRYUA, AID THE LIEUTENANT WITH ANYTHING HE MIGHT NEED?
AND SO THEY SENT YOU IN.
Smile
Smile

HMM?
THEY ROLL IN, AND WE BEND OVER.
WELL, I'LL BE IN MY OFFICE.
!
BUT YOU'RE NOT!
OH, MAN!
BUT... WE DO AIM TO PRESERVE JOINT OWNERSHIP.
THIS PRECINCT WILL BE FOLDED INTO THE CITIZENS' RULE POWER STRUCTURE.
YOU KNOW THAT WHEN THE STRUGGLE IS OVER, THE UNITED MANKIND WILL RUN THE POLICE
THIS IS A CHANCE FOR YOU TO PROVE YOUR LOYALTY TO THE CITIZENS' RULE

HUH?
WHAT IS THAT?!
WHAT?!
THE KID'S LIVING IN A DREAM WORLD.
THIS JERK ACTUALLY BELIEVES THE SHIT HE'S DISHING.
IT SMELLS LIKE MEDICINE.
WELL, THIS ONE'S HARMLESS
SMOKING?
THAT'S LEGAL HERE?!
IT'S A CIGARETTE
IN OUR SOCIETY, SMOKING HAS BEEN ILLEGAL FOR OVER 200 YEARS.
NO SHIT
REALLY?
MEDICINE OR NOT, I FIND IT DEPLORABLE!!


WHADDA PRICK.
MIND-ALTERING DRUGS ARE FORBIDDEN IN THE CITIZENS' RULE GOVERNMENT!
ALTERING YOUR MIND WITH DRUGS FLIES IN THE FACE OF REASON!


FORENSICS SAYS STRANDS OF HAIR FOUND IN THE CAR ARE DEFINITELY ABH.
THE REGISTRATION NUMBER MATCHES UP
ARE YOU SURE?

UH-HUH. AND IT ONLY TOOK THREE DAYS.
WE'RE HOT ON THEIR TRAIL

COME ON, USE YOUR HEAD!
SO UNTIL ANOTHER CLUE PRESENTS ITSELF, WE SHOULD SEARCH EVERY HOUSE IN THE VICINITY!
THIS LEAD IS AS COLD AS A CORPSE WE FOUND THIS CAR LESS AND AN HOUR AGO, AND WHO KNOWS HOW LONG SINCE THEY DITCHED IT!
DON'T YA GET IT, SLICK!
WE GOT ZILCH!

RIGHT... AND ASK IF ANY ABH-LOOKING CITIZENS ARE HIDING THERE?
WE SHOULD START WITH THE INNS.
WHAT DO THEY TEACH YOU IN THAT PRISON YOU CALL AN ACADEMY?
IS THE REST OF THE CITIZENS' RULE COMMAND JUST LIKE YOU?
A PLACE FOR EDUCATION.. OR RE-EDUCATION.
IT IS A PLACE OF LEARNING.
A FEW DAYS AGO HE DROPPED OUT OF SIGHT.
IS HE IN YOUR ACADEMY NOW?
I HAVE A FRIEND IN THE SUFUGNOF SYSTEM. MANAGES A PLANTATION.

FROM THE MOMENT OF OUR BIRTH, WE ARE TAUGHT TO FIGHT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.
THE EMPIRE'S CITIZENS HAVE BEEN BRAIN-WASHED. UNITED MANKIND IS HERE TO SAVE THEM.
TSUNK
WHAT DID YOU PEOPLE REALLY COME HERE TO DO?
'CAUSE WE DON'T WANT YOU HERE!
REMEMBER THAT!

LIEU-
TENANT
NOW,
AFTER
YOU.
Turn
Release
.....
SWIP

GOOD NIGHT, LAFIEL
Kaoruko
I'M GOING TO SLEEP.
WE'VE BEEN SHUT UP IN THIS ROOM FOR DAYS.
MAYBE WE CAN LEAVE TOMORROW MORNING
IT WOULD HAVE TAKEN US FOREVER TO GET HERE ON FOOT.
LUCKY THOSE THUGS HAD THAT CAR.

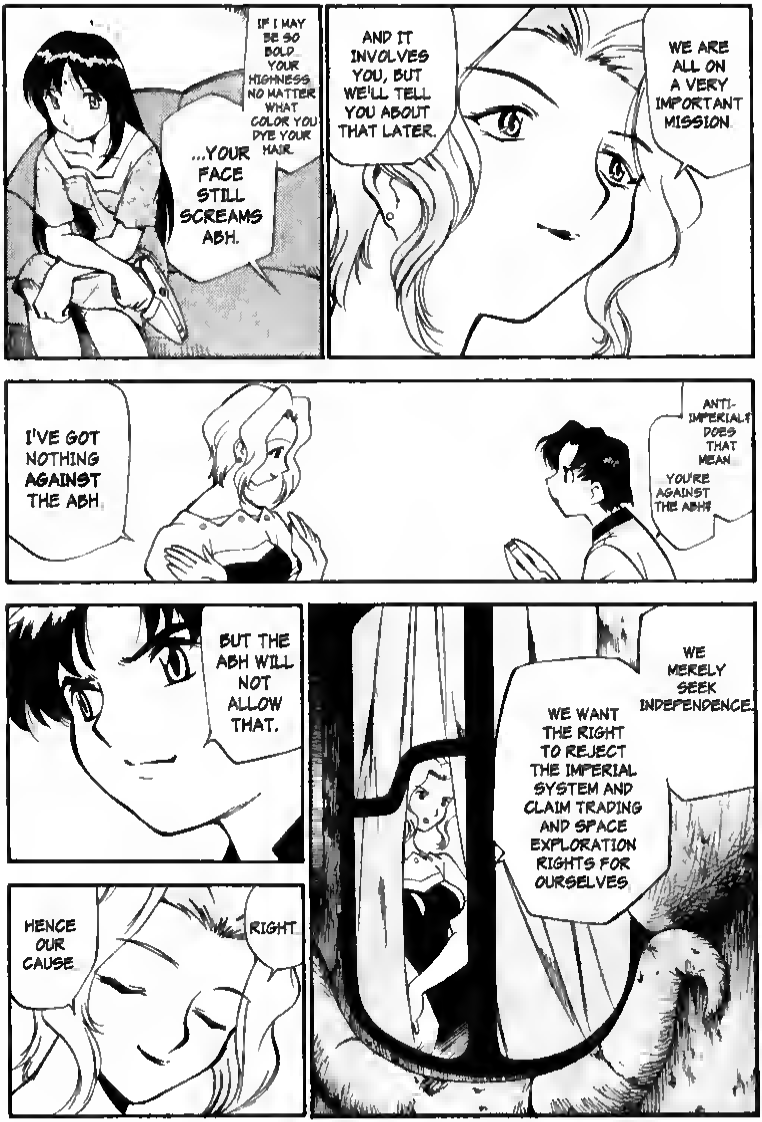
!!
DON'T MOVE OR WE'LL SHOOT!
WHO ARE YOU?!
HUH? DON'T WE LOOK LIKE POLICE OFFICERS?
WHAT?! POLICE OFFICERS?!

FIND THE ABH FEMALE. SHE SHOULD BE HERE.
Grunt
YOU COULD SAY THAT.
ARE YOU HERE TO ARREST US?
STOP!
HMM?
HOW LOYAL ARE YOU

.....
IT'S AN ABH.
I'VE NEVER SEEN...
HEH ...
DROP YOUR WEAPON
IF HE DIES, ALL OF YOU DIE!
I WILL BLOW EVERY ONE OF YOUR HEADS CLEAN OFF!
AND KEEP IN MIND THAT I'M IN AN EXTREMELY BAD MOOD!!
WE MUST HAVE WOKEN HER UP.

Ow!
NO!
THERE'RE FOUR OF US!
AH!
MAYBE YOU SHOULD THINK IT OVER
Click
UNDERTAKER... IS THIS ANY WAY TO TREAT GUESTS?
PUT YOUR GUNS DOWN.
Oh.
.....

PLEASE ACCEPT OUR WARMEST WELCOME!
Hah hah
WELCOME TO CLASBUL!
Thump
WE ARE ALL CREW MEMBERS ON THE ANTI-IMPERIAL WARSHIP, CLASBUL
I'M THEIR LEADER, MARCA.
I'M THE UNDERTAKER
THIS IS GOOF
HUH?!
I'M MIN
.....


IF I MAY BE SO BOLD YOUR HIGHNESS NO MATTER WHAT COLOR YOU DYE YOUR HAIR...
...YOUR FACE STILL SCREAMS ABH.
AND IT INVOLVES YOU, BUT WE'LL TELL YOU ABOUT THAT LATER.
WE ARE ALL ON A VERY IMPORTANT MISSION.
I'VE GOT NOTHING AGAINST THE ABH.
ANTI-IMPERIAL? DOES THAT MEAN YOU'RE AGAINST THE ABH?
BUT THE ABH WILL NOT ALLOW THAT.
WE MERELY SEEK INDEPENDENCE.
WE WANT THE RIGHT TO REJECT THE IMPERIAL SYSTEM AND CLAIM TRADING AND SPACE EXPLORATION RIGHTS FOR OURSELVES.
HENCE OUR CAUSE.
RIGHT.

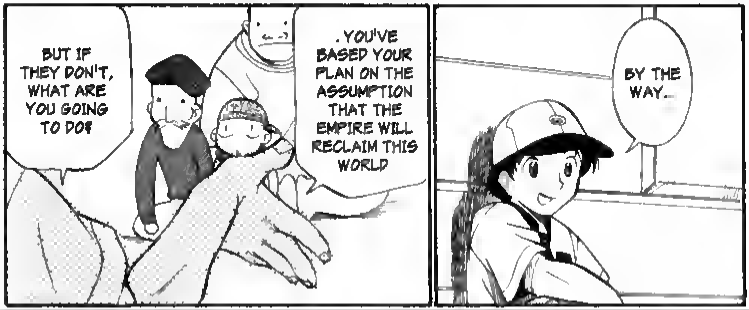
...WOULD LIKE TO TAKE YOU HOSTAGE.
WE...
...UNTIL THE ASH RETURN.
WE CAN KEEP YOU OUT OF SIGHT...
...BUT IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THE OCCUPATION FORCE FINDS YOU.
I KNOW IT MAY SEEM LIKE A MANIACAL IDEA...
BUT THEY MAY BE DECEIVING US
THINK ABOUT IT, LAFIEL.
WE DON'T HAVE MANY OPTIONS.
Nudge
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
EVEN IF I WERE THE EMPRESS HERSELF!
AND THEN YOU CAN NEGOTIATE WITH THE EMPIRE, RIGHT?

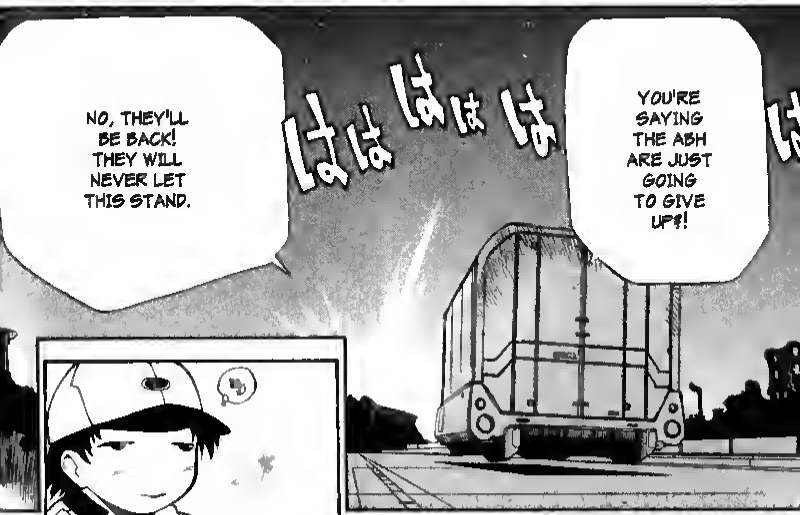
...BUT MAYBE WE CAN GIVE THEM A LITTLE HOPE
YES, THEIR PLAN IS DOOMED TO FAILURE
YOU'RE RIGHT.
BUT THAT DOESN'T EVEN MATTER
YES
BUT WE DO HAVE CONDITIONS
WE'LL BE YOUR HOSTAGES
WE ACCEPT
Sprss

A MEAT TRUCK FROM THE NEXT SECTOR OVER
OH
OKAY
MOVE ALONG
OH, IT'S YOU
YOU'RE A LITTLE EARLY TODAY.
HEY WORKING HARD TONIGHT?
Glare
YEAH! STANDARD PROCEDURE DICTATES THAT YOU SHOULD BE BOUND AND GAGGED
THAT'S--
THAT RUNS COUNTER TO YEARS OF HOSTAGE-TAKING THEORY
ARMED HOSTAGES, EH?

WE DON'T REALLY KNOW OURSELVES, BUT...
WE HAVEN'T TOLD YOU OUR INTENTIONS YET.
Glare
WE ARE BLESSED BOTH WITH WEAPONRY AND SKILL.
AH.
...I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT TO SAY.
DON'T CRY, UNDER-TAKER.
...OH...
...WE'RE DEALING WITH...
Confusion
だだだ
BUT.
...BUT WE WANT YOU TWO AS HOSTAGES AND...
SHE SEEMS TOO RUDE TO BE SUIF.
IS SHE REALLY A NOBLEMAN, OR JUST A CITIZEN?
ガァーッ

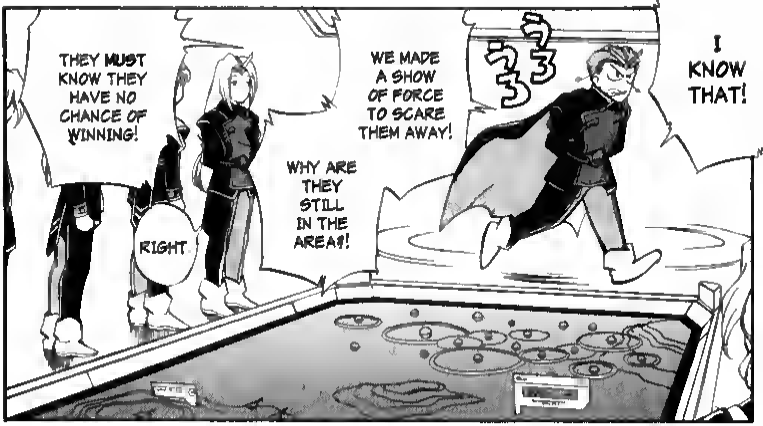
HMM...
THEY ALL LOOK ALIKE... SO YOUNG.
AND WHAT WOULD A NOBLE BE DOING SO CLOSE TO THE SUFUGNOF SYSTEM?

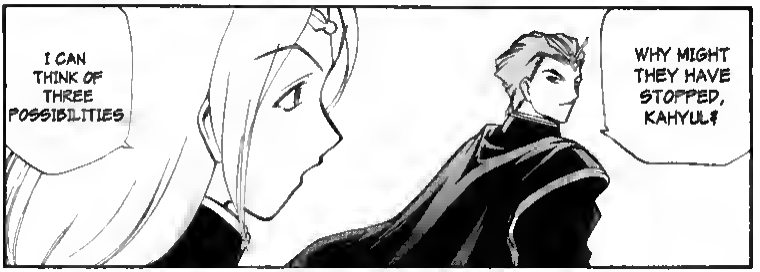

BUT IF THEY DON'T, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
. YOU'VE BASED YOUR PLAN ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE EMPIRE WILL RECLAIM THIS WORLD
BY THE WAY...


NO, THEY'LL BE BACK! THEY WILL NEVER LET THIS STAND.
はは はは
YOU'RE SAYING THE ABH ARE JUST GOING TO GIVE UP?!

Chapter 6
Battleground at Sufugnof Gate
RAJSHAKAL WEK SODAL SUFUGNOM

Plane Space–
About 6,000
gedrels from
Sufugnof of
The Yunyu
Star System
WHAT IS
THIS?
THERE'S A
99.97
PERCENT
PROBABILITY
THOSE ARE
ENEMY
SHIPS.
Admiral Trife Bolj Yuvdale Remsale


THEY MUST KNOW THEY HAVE NO CHANCE OF WINNING!
RIGHT
WE MADE A SHOW OF FORCE TO SCARE THEM AWAY!
WHY ARE THEY STILL IN THE AREA?!
うう
I KNOW THAT!

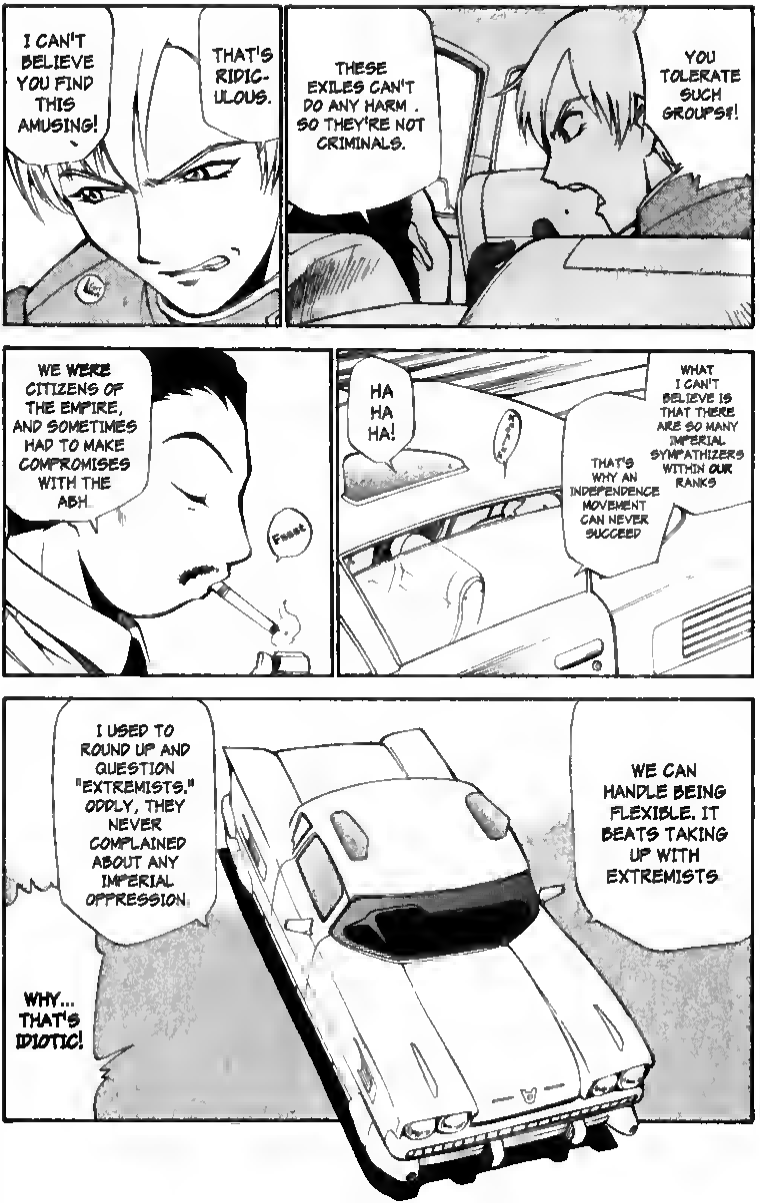

I CAN THINK OF THREE POSSIBILITIES
WHY MIGHT THEY HAVE STOPPED, KAHYUL?

MY APOLOGIES
YOU'RE WRONG TO ASCRIBE THEM ARROGANCE
I WANT THE HIGHEST PROBABILITY FIRST.
WAIT!
ONE, THEY FEEL THEY DO INDEED HAVE A SMALL CHANCE AT VICTORY

.. SUCH AS AN ORDER TO DEFEND SUFUGNOF TO THE DEATH WITH ONLY MINIMAL RESOURCES
THE UNITED MANKIND CONSTITUTES THE ENEMY'S MAIN FORCE.
ITS MILITARY COMMAND IS KNOWN FOR ISSUING INFLEXIBLE ORDERS.
THE MAIN FORCE IS ELSE-WHERE!
THIS IS MOST LIKELY DIVERSIONARY
A CONVENTIONAL INVASION OF THE CAPITAL WOULD REQUIRE MORE MILITARY STRENGTH THAN THIS
I'LL LET CENTRAL COMMAND WORRY ABOUT THAT.
NO!
THAT'S TRUE
HMM
PRASAS DETACHMENT
HOKSAS INCOMING!
VERY WELL!
WE SHALL PROCEED WITH OUR ASSAULT!

EXECUTE DEFENSIVE MANUEUVERS !!
THE GREAT BATTLE OF THE SUFUGNOF GATE HAS BEGUN!!

WE'VE LOCATED TWO POSSIBLE SUSPECTS...
..AT THE LIMZALE INN
THEY CHECKED IN TWO DAYS AGO.
According to the manager...
they didn't set foot outside of their room
PERFECT
IT'S THEM!
QUICK! WE CAN'T LET THEM ESCAPE!
A RESIS-TANCE CELL?
OR MAYBE AN ASH GROUP IN DISGUISE.
NO... I DON'T THINK SO
AT WORST, IT'S AN ASH GROUP BANISHED TO THE SURFACE FOR SEEKING INDEPENDENCE


I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FIND THIS AMUSING!
THAT'S RIDICULOUS.
THESE EXILES CAN'T DO ANY HARM . SO THEY'RE NOT CRIMINALS.
YOU TOLERATE SUCH GROUPS?!
WE WERE CITIZENS OF THE EMPIRE, AND SOMETIMES HAD TO MAKE COMPROMISES WITH THE ABH.
Fuuu
HA HA HA!
WHAT I CAN'T BELIEVE IS THAT THERE ARE SO MANY IMPERIAL SYMPATHIZERS WITHIN OUR RANKS
THAT'S WHY AN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT CAN NEVER SUCCEED
I USED TO ROUND UP AND QUESTION "EXTREMISTS." ODDLY, THEY NEVER COMPLAINED ABOUT ANY IMPERIAL OPPRESSION.
WE CAN HANDLE BEING FLEXIBLE. IT BEATS TAKING UP WITH EXTREMISTS
WHY... THAT'S IDIOTIC!

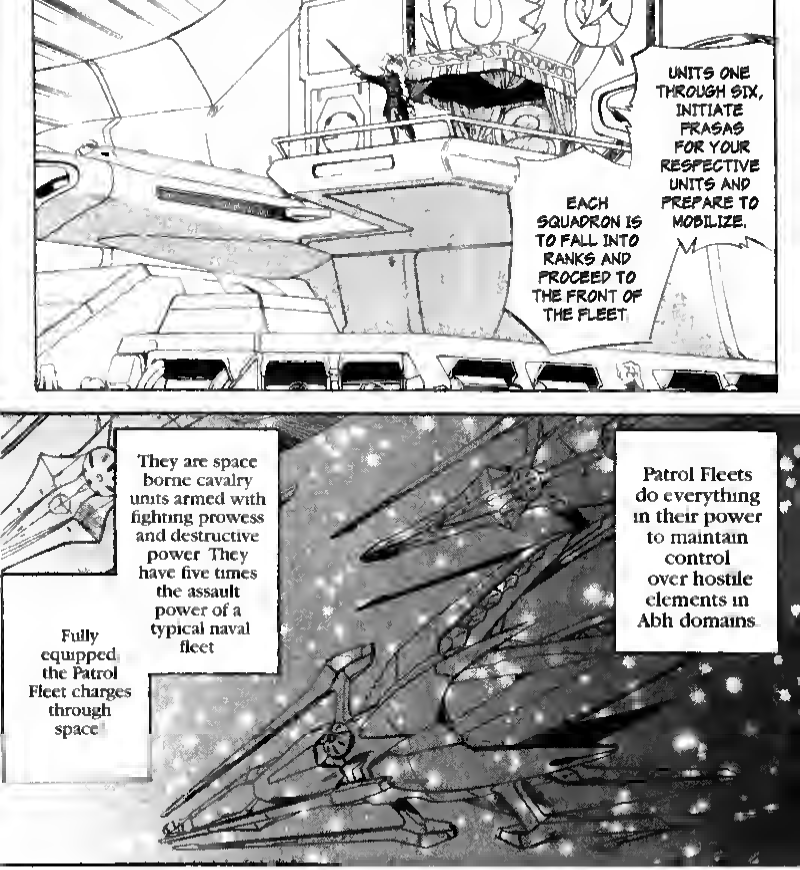
IT MAY BE IDIOTIC...
.BUT SPEAKING AS A LANDER, I'VE NEVER SEEN THE ABH INTRUDE IN OUR AFFAIRS
IF A VIABLE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT EMERGED, IT WOULDN'T BE WORTH JOINING
.....
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
IT'S AN OCCUPATION army CHECKPOINT
.....
AGAIN!
LIEUTENANT!
TELL THE COMMANDER WHO WE ARE!

HMPH.
WHAT'S THE DEAL?
YOU DON'T LIKE PULLING RANK?
IT'S PART OF BEING IN COMMAND.
HOW OLD DO YOU THINK I AM, INSPECTOR?
?
TWENTY-SEVEN TWENTY EIGHT MAYBE?
I WILL BE FORTY-NINE THIS YEAR.
HUH?
YOU'RE OLDER THAN I AM!!
MANY YEARS AGO, MY PEOPLE UNDERWENT GENE MODIFICATION THAT SLOWED MY AGING PROCESS, THUS TRANSFORMING ME INTO ONE OF THE IMMORTAL SILEJIA
BUT HUMAN GENE MODIFICATION IS ILLEGAL IN THE UNITED MANKIND.

Grit
.....
THAT WOULD ALSO MAKE IT ILLEGAL UNDER UNITED CITIZENS' RULE.
I SEE.
I AM A MEMBER OF THE CITIZENS' RULE.
I ONLY DO WHAT I HAVE TO DO.
IS THAT WHAT MAKES YOU SO ZEALOUS IN YOUR DUTIES?
Flashlight
WE ARE DEEPLY JEALOUS OF THEIR SPECIES.
ABH AND THE IMMORTAL SILEJIA.
THEY UNDERWENT THE SAME GENE MODIFICATION, BUT UNDER DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCES.
BUT YOU HAVE MY SYMPATHIES, LIEUTENANT.

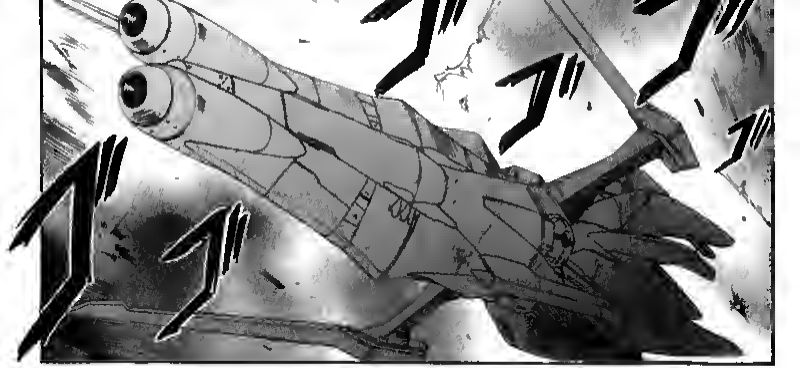
BRING IN THE FUTUNE!
LET'S STEP IT UP!
ENEMY DISTANCE... 100!
Futune Patrol Fleet

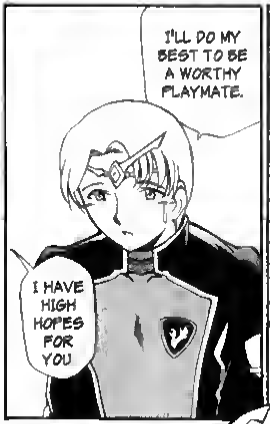
Transmission from command!
Kill them.
Grin
THIS IS MY FIRST MISSION WITH FRODE TRIFE...
...AND I'M IMPRESSED WITH THE CLARITY OF HIS ORDERS.
Futune Flagship
Rear Admiral Spoor
Duchess of Peneju

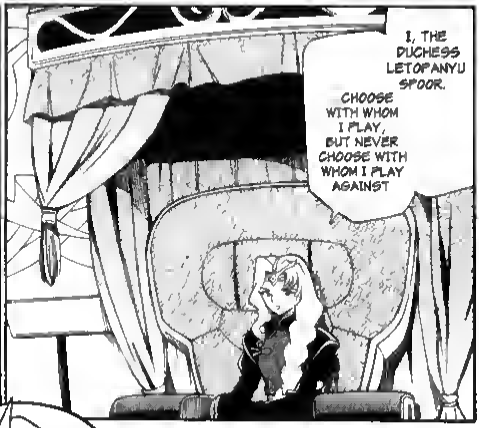

UNITS ONE THROUGH SIX, INITIATE FRASAS FOR YOUR RESPECTIVE UNITS AND PREPARE TO MOBILIZE.
EACH SQUADRON IS TO FALL INTO RANKS AND PROCEED TO THE FRONT OF THE FLEET.
They are space borne cavalry units armed with fighting prowess and destructive power. They have five times the assault power of a typical naval fleet.
Fully equipped, the Patrol Fleet charges through space.
Patrol Fleets do everything in their power to maintain control over hostile elements in Abh domains.
APPROACHING ENEMY HOKSAS!
TELL EACH UNIT TO FOLLOW US ON COURSE 3-1-0. CONTINUOUS MESSAGE!
UNIT FOUR HAS FALLEN BEHIND FIVE RANKS!

Gulp
HOKSAS!
WITH THIS
RONYU!
?!
IS SHE HUMMING IN THE MIDST OF BATTLE?
WHAT IS IT, ALM KASELIA?
Is she focusing?
Huh?
WELL...
SHOULDN'T WE COUNTER WITH OUR DEFENSIVE MINES?
YOU'VE BEEN UNDER MY COMMAND FOR A MONTH, RIGHT?

PATROL SHIPS AREN'T EQUIPPED WITH A SINGLE DEFENSIVE MINE
THE FEW MINES THAT LESUI DO HAVE MUST BE USED FOR ATTACKING NOT DEFENSE
REMEMBER THAT.
BUT STILL...
INCOMING MINES FROM THE LEFT FRONT FLANK!
Shing
LAUNCH PORT SIDE MINES!
THREE MINES CONVERGING ON OUR LOCATION!
HAVE UNIT FOUR TAKE CARE OF THEM!
Beep
Beep
THEY'RE ALSO COMING IN FROM THE RIGHT!

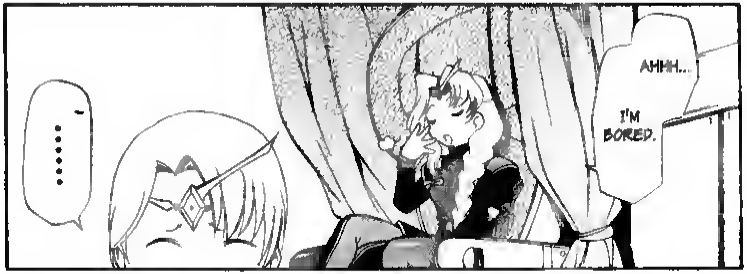


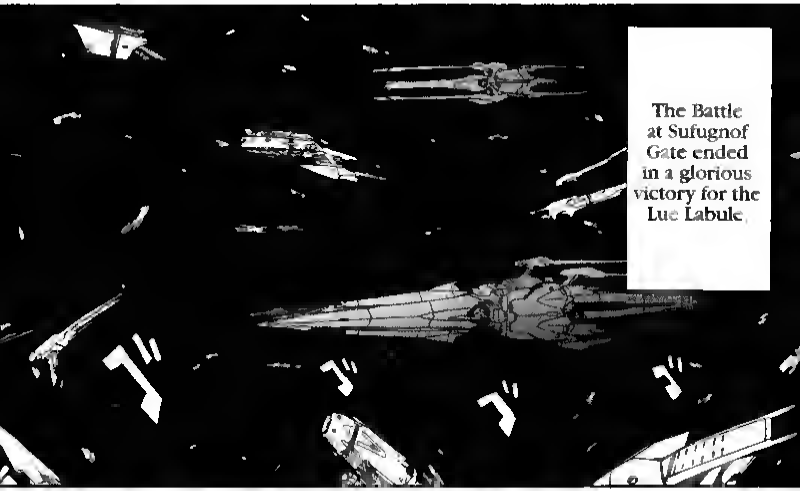

I'LL DO MY BEST TO BE A WORTHY PLAYMATE.
I HAVE HIGH HOPES FOR YOU.


I, THE DUCHESS LETOPANYU SPOOR.
CHOOSE WITH WHOM I PLAY, BUT NEVER CHOOSE WITH WHOM I PLAY AGAINST

PLEASE BE CAREFUL.
BUT...
...YOUR EYES... I SEE IN THEM A GLIMMER OF REBELLION.

WE'VE FRACTURED THE ENEMY'S FRONT LINE.
THEY HAVE FOCUSED ON THE FUTURE!
BEAUTIFUL, REAR ADMIRAL SPOOR!
DEPLOY AS MANY HOKSAS AS POSSIBLE TO FORCE THE WEDGE OPEN!
WE CANNOT LOSE FUTURE!


AHHH...
I'M BORED.
.....


The Battle at Sufugnof Gate ended in a glorious victory for the Lue Labule.

THERE'S ONE MORE JOB FOR FUTUNE.
RE-SUPPLY AND ENTER THE SUFUGNOF GATE.
ALL REMAINING SHIPS, SECURE THIS SYSTEM. WE ARE VICTORIOUS!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HUH?

YOU THINK WE'RE A BUNCH OF INSANE IDEALISTS, DON'T YOU?

WELL, YOU KNEW THAT.
THERE'S NO WAY THE EMPIRE WILL RECOGNIZE OUR INDEPENDENCE JUST BECAUSE WE'RE HOLDING HER HOSTAGE.

WE WANT A SPACE-SHIP
WELL, I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHY YOU TOOK US HOSTAGE IN THE FIRST PLACE.
I WAS ACTUALLY WONDERING WHY YOU HAD TO DISGUISE YOURSELVES AS POLICE-MEN.
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE
WE WANT OUR OWN SPACE-SHIP SO WE CAN GO WHEREVER WE WANT!
OUR OBJEC-TIVE IS NOT TO RIDE A SPACE-SHIP!
IF YOU WANT TO GET ON A SPACE-SHIP, YOU COULD JUST BECOME CITIZENS
ALL INTERSTELLAR SPACESHIPS BELONG TO THE EMPRESS
NOT EVEN THE HIGHEST NOBLES OWN PERSONAL SHIPS

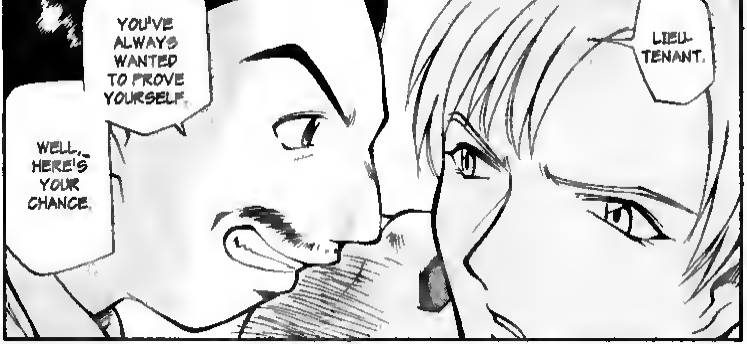
THE IMPERIAL MERCHANT GROUP ISSUES THEM OUT, CREW INCLUDED
THOSE SHIPS ARE LEASED
BUT WE SEE COMPANY SHIPS AND VODA COMING IN AND OUT OF THE SPACEPORT ALL THE TIME!
.....
WHEN BILL AND DASWANI GET BACK--
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
Pst Pst
QUIET!
WE WOULD GLADLY--
SO THEN, IF YOU'VE CHANGED YOUR MIND ABOUT TAKING US HOSTAGE...

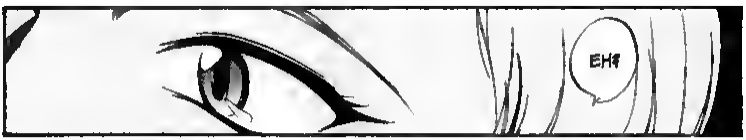
HOW DID THEY FIND US?!
IT'S THE ARMY!!
Stomp Stomp Stomp

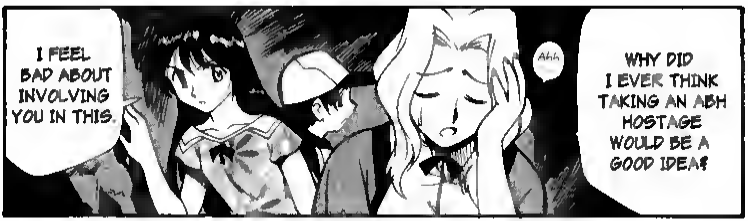
THIS WAY!
LAFIEL!

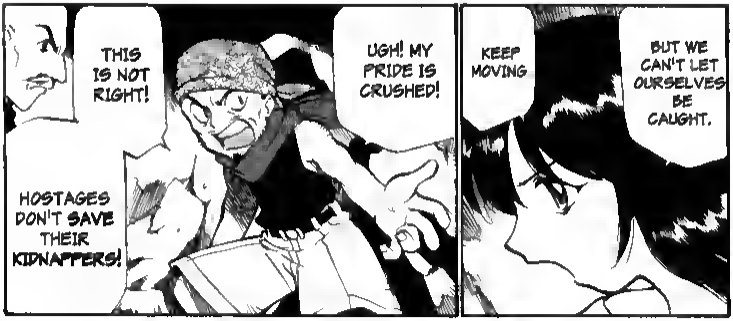
Fwi?

DAMN! THE MILITARY GOT HERE FIRST!
WE ARE RECEIVING ORDERS FROM THE MILITARY RIGHT NOW!
.....
Beep
Beep
WE ARE TO CEASE PURSUIT OF THE ABH IMMEDIATELY.
IT IS MOST LIKELY THAT THESE ARE THE SAME ABH WHO MADE AN EMERGENCY LANDING ON THIS PLANET NEARLY A WEEK AGO.
WHY DOES THAT MATTER?
BASED ON THE INFORMATION THAT I'M GETTING, THEY ALLIED THEMSELVES WITH AN INDEPENDENCE GROUP.
IT SEEMS THE ABH WERE HERE.
HUH?
YOU'RE KIDDING
SO WERE THEY CAPTURED?
THEY ESCAPED UNDER-GROUND...
...AND ARE BEING PURSUED...
...BY THE GUZONYU LOCAL POLICE.
Grab


YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO PROVE YOURSELF.
WELL, HERE'S YOUR CHANCE.
LIEU-TENANT.


EH?


I FEEL BAD ABOUT INVOLVING YOU IN THIS.
AHH
WHY DID I EVER THINK TAKING AN ABH HOSTAGE WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA?


THIS IS NOT RIGHT!
UGH! MY PRIDE IS CRUSHED!
HOSTAGES DON'T SAVE THEIR KIDNAPPERS!
KEEP MOVING.
BUT WE CAN'T LET OURSELVES BE CAUGHT.

THERE IS NO NEED FOR YOU TO STAY WITH US.
THIS IS AN IMPERIAL BATTLE-GROUND NOW.

AND REMEMBER... THE KIN OF THE STARS ARE NOT MEANT TO DIE UNDERGROUND.
I WILL.
IF YOU SURVIVE THIS, LOOK US UP.
GOOD

Chapter 7
Trouble Soaring Through Heaven
LOBYUASH SESULA

Pfft
Pfft

Blam
Fwip
Fwip Fwip
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!

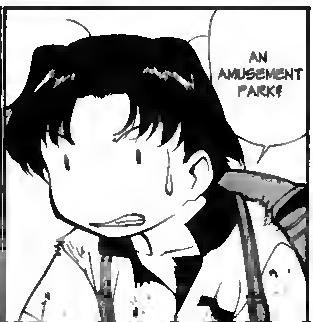
GET DOWN, JINTO!
WHAT IS IT?
Thunk
ドオオン
ガン ガン

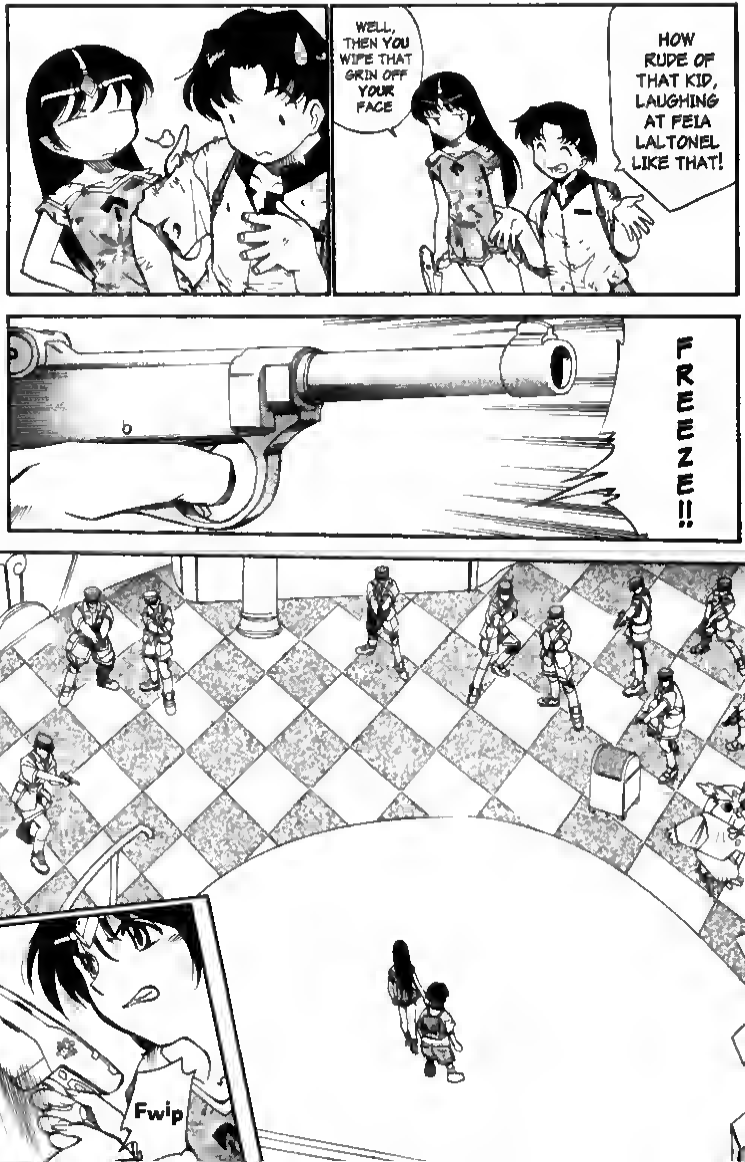
ガラ
ガラ
ガラ
ガラ
WHEW
THAT WAS CLOSE!
Faop
THE ENEMY IS STILL CLOSING IN
YEAH, BUT AT LEAST THIS CAVE GIVES US A CHANCE TO CATCH OUR BREATH.
くたー
WHAT'S WRONG?
WERE YOU HIT?!
I'M JUST TIRED.
BITE YOUR TONGUE.

IF ONLY THE ROYAL GRAND CHAMBERLAIN COULD SEE ME UNDERGROUND LIKE THIS.
UGH I FEEL CRAMPS COMING ON
Glug
Glug
Glug
Glug
THEY'RE COMING THROUGH.
I'M SORRY.
Lift
OKAY
REST ON MY SHOULDER.

HA HA HA!
DON'T BE STUPID!
HEY, I OWE YOU ONE!
C'mon
NO
IT'S A DOOR
IT'S A DEAD END!

AH-HA HA HA!


AN AMUSEMENT PARK!


WELL, THEN YOU WIPE THAT GRIN OFF YOUR FACE
HOW RUDE OF THAT KID, LAUGHING AT FEIA LALTONEL LIKE THAT!
FREEZE!!
Fwip

IT'S ALL RIGHT.
IF WE GET CAUGHT BY THE LOCAL POLICE FORCE, WE SHOULD BE FINE.
AS LONG AS THEY DON'T TURN US OVER TO THE MILITARY
THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN WIN!
DON'T DO IT!
WELL, WE'RE NOT GOING TO JUST GIVE UP, JINTO!
BUT I SHOULD REALLY--
STAY HERE
THERE ARE A FINITE NUMBER OF PLACES TO RUN
LIKE I TOLD YOU, LIEUTENANT
I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT A USIYA STOLEN FIVE DAYS AGO.
I AM INSPECTOR ENTRYUA OF THE LUNE BIGA CITY POLICE

ARE YOU GOING TO ARREST US?
AHH... YOU SPEAK CLASBUL THEN.
GOOD. I DON'T LIKE SPEAKING ABH.
NOW, I'M ASKING YOU NICELY TO COME WITH US.
IT'LL BE A WHOLE LOT EASIER THAT WAY.
WE KNOW YOUR SPECIAL CIRCUM-STANCES.
THERE'S NO NEED FOR VIOLENCE.
.....
LAFIEL.
I TRUST YOUR JUDGMENT, JINTO.
Klunk

ALL RIGHT. THIS WAY.
AH.
AH.
AH.
Grit
Ah!
Grit
Grit
AH!
Ah!
Ah!

Stomp
FILTHY ABH!!
KYTE! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
NO!

JINTO!!

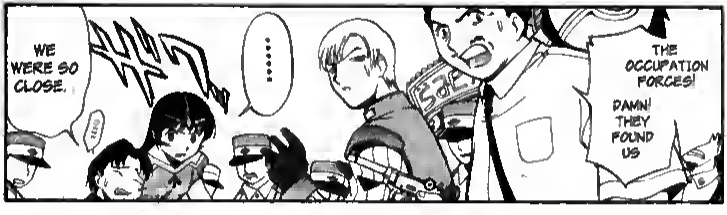
HA HA HA HA HA!
JINTO!
KYTE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
I-I'M ALL RIGHT.
JINTO!
NOW, AHH! STRIP DOWN AND LIE ON YOUR BACK!
I'M OBLIGED TO SEARCH YOU THOR-OUGHLY!

CALM DOWN!
IT'S NO GOOD, LAFIEL!
DO YOU WANT TO DIE, ABH!
DIE!
DIE!
DIE!
YOU ARTIFICIAL SCUM!

THAT'S ENOUGH, KYTE!
HUFF ...
HUFF ...
HUFF ...

AND I WON'T STAND FOR THAT!
YOU AREN'T PLAYING BY OUR RULES
WE ARE UNDER CLASBUL JURISDICTION HERE.
BUT INSPECTOR ...?
...YOU MONSTER!
YOU...
NO! DON'T DO IT LAFIEL!
HOW COULD YOU...!

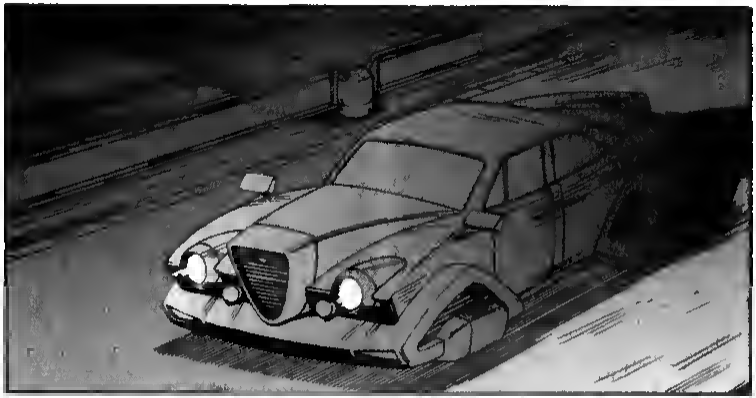
A-G-G-G-H!
Kachink Kachink

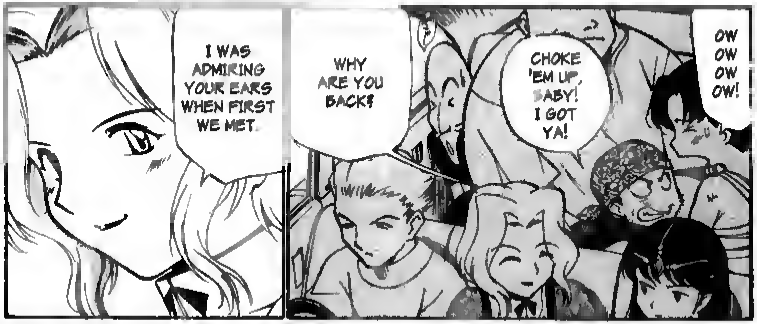

WE WERE SO CLOSE.
.....
THE OCCUPATION FORCES!
DAMN! THEY FOUND US

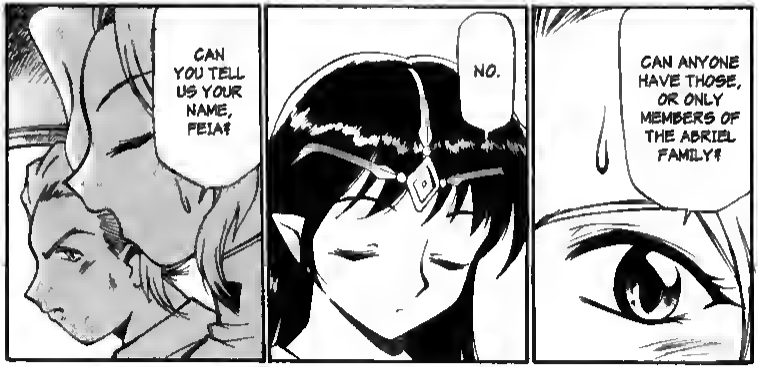
Y... YES.
THERE'S NO REASON TO HATE THE ABH! YOU'RE MAKING THINGS WORSE!
INSPECTOR
YOU WANT THIS PLACE TO BECOME A WARZONE?
KYTE! STOP THEM!
INSPEC-TOR.

GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE!
THERE'S AN EMPLOYEE EXIT TO THE RIGHT OF US!
LOOK UP.
I'LL BE FINE
BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU?
AH!

THOSE ARE WADROS SASOT.
THE LABULE ARE COMING.
THEY GOT HERE FASTER THAN I EXPECTED.
HEY-- YOU TWO!

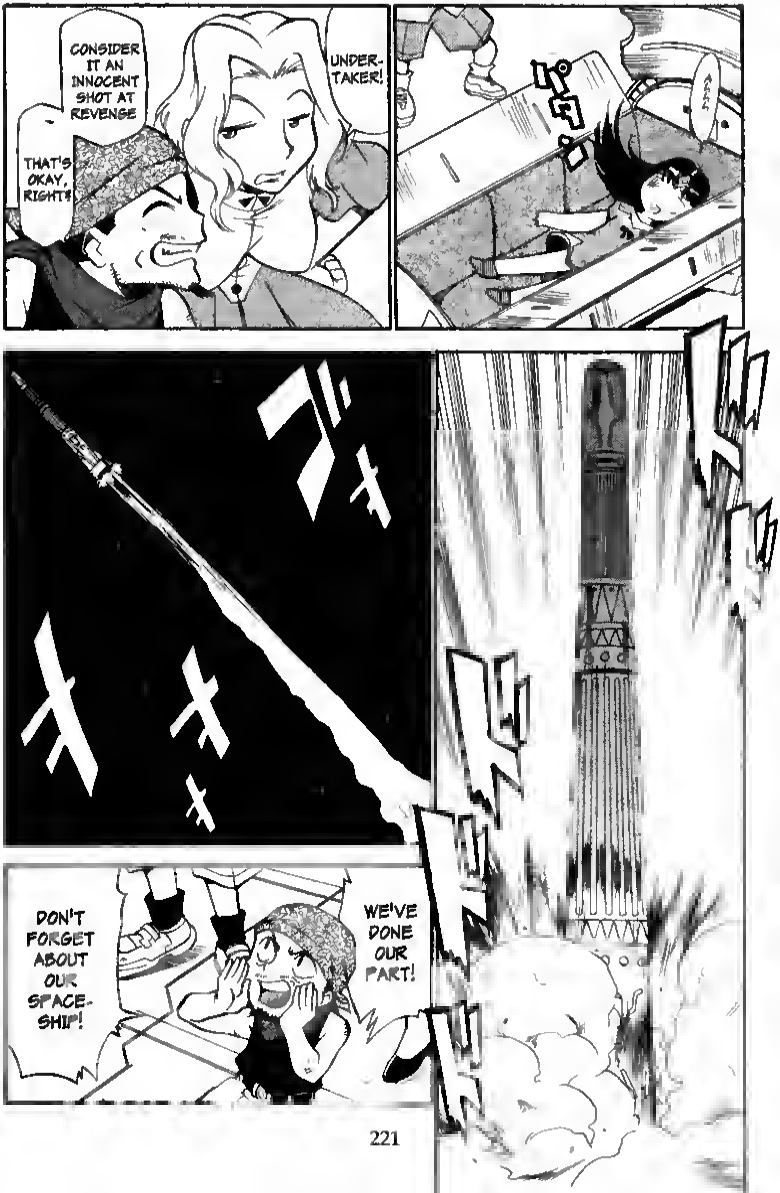



I WAS ADMIRING YOUR EARS WHEN FIRST WE MET.
WHY ARE YOU BACK?
CHOKE 'EM UP, BABY! I GOT YA!
OW OW OW OW!


CAN YOU TELL US YOUR NAME, FEIA?
NO.
CAN ANYONE HAVE THOSE, OR ONLY MEMBERS OF THE ABRIEL FAMILY?

WHAT IS THE FURYU BAL LALTONEI DOING IN A DUNG HEAP LIKE THIS?!
ABRIEL NEI DOBRUSK VISCOUNTESS PARYUNU LAFIEL.
EVEN CITIZENS THINK I LOOK LIKE THE IMPERIAL HIGHNESS!
AH. THAT'S GREAT N
AND I'M JUST YOUR CARGO
DID YOU HEAR THAT, JINTO?!
Guzonyu City Funeral Center

HEY, YOU WANTED OFF THIS ROCK, RIGHT?
YOU'RE LAUNCHING US OUT OF HERE IN SPACE COFFINS?!
WELL, WHADDAYA KNOW .THE "UNDERTAKER" REALLY IS AN ACTUAL UNDERTAKER!
IT'S A CHEMICAL REACTION WHEN HYDROGEN BURNS, IT RISES
NOT NUCLEAR FUSION?
HYDRO-GEN
HOW IS THIS THING PROPELLED ?
THE BIG GUNS WILL BE HERE SOON!
RIGHT NOW IT'S THE ONLY WAY, SO HOP IN.
QUICK!
GET IN! GET IN!
SOME MOURNERS WATCH THE SHIP BURN UP IN THE NIGHT SKY, LIKE FIREWORKS
IT'S PRETTY COOL, ACTU-ALLY
EXPLODE ?!
WHAT ?!
GASP!
YEP IT COULD EXPLODE TOO
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, LAFIEL?
Uhhh

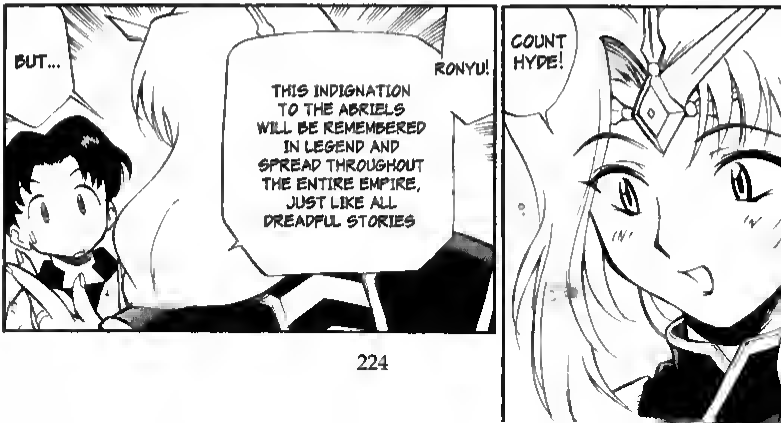

CONSIDER IT AN INNOCENT SHOT AT REVENGE
THAT'S OKAY, RIGHT?
UNDER-TAKER!
ドゥ
ゴォ
ゴォ
ゴォ
DON'T FORGET ABOUT OUR SPACE-SHIP!
WE'VE DONE OUR PART!

INSPECTOR!
THE MILITARY POLICE HAVE FAILED TO APPREHEND THE SUSPECTS
HM
OH WELL.
KYTE ...
WANT ONE?
Cough
Cough
Cough
Cough

SALEL!
ONE OF THE BODEMIA HAS RESCUED CASTAWAYS DRIFTING IN ORBIT.
AND THAT MEANS...?
WELL...
?

WELCOME ABOARD MY SHIP..
..FEIA.. RONYU.
FEIA, I WOULD NEVER HAVE GUESSED YOU WERE AN IMPERIAL CITIZEN RIDING IN A SHIP LIKE THAT.
BUT..
I WOULDN'T USUALLY SPEAK DIRECTLY WITH A BENE RODAIL.
AND THOSE CLOTHES ..!
ガタッ

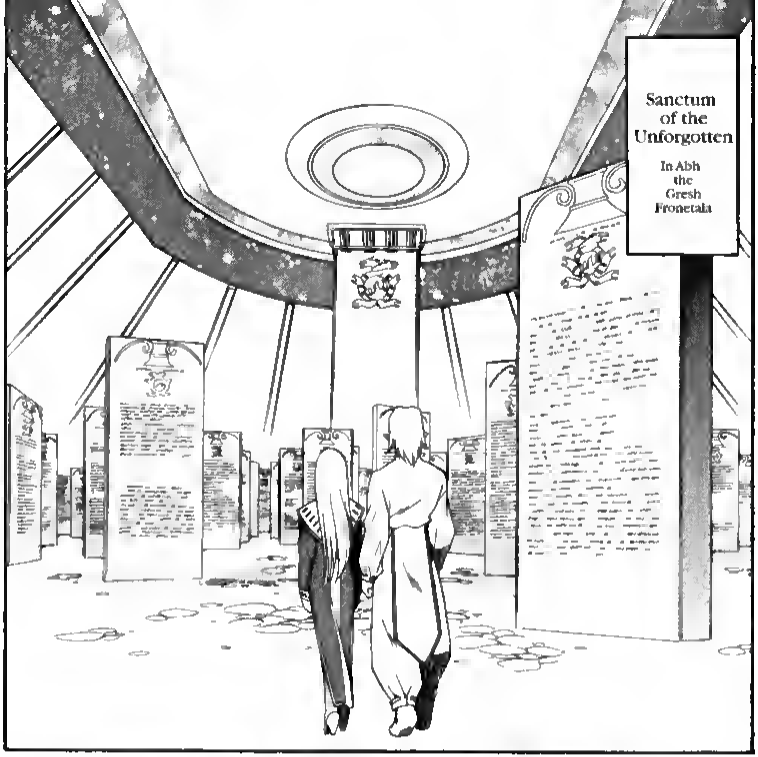
I THANK YOU THEN!
SO, WHAT HAPPENED?
WHO IS THIS?
JINTO..
..IS THE YALULUG DRIL HYDAL.

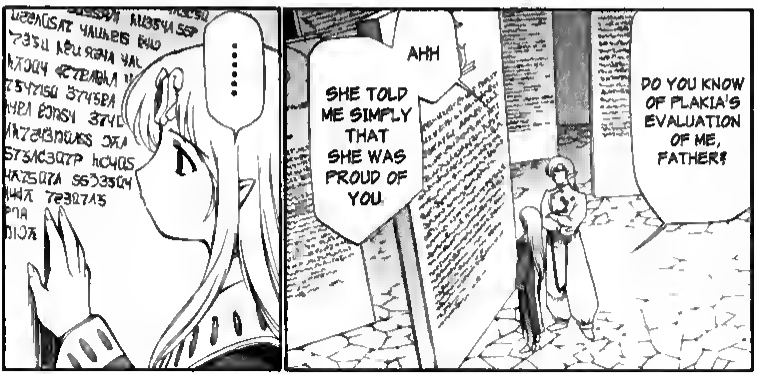

COUNT HYDE!
RONYU!
THIS INDIGNATION TO THE ABRIELS WILL BE REMEMBERED IN LEGEND AND SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE EMPIRE, JUST LIKE ALL DREADFUL STORIES
BUT...

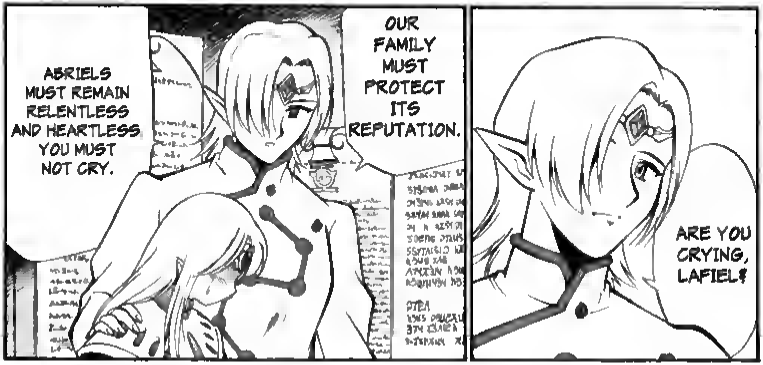
WE OWE THIS MERITORIOUS SERVICE ALL TO THE DRIL, OF COURSE, I MEAN LEKUL HYDE.
I NEVER IMAGINED I'D SEE THE DAY.
HER HIGHNESS LAFIEL HAS DYED HER HAIR BLACK AND IS WEARING STRANGE CLOTHES.
SHE'S USING YOU TO MAKE FUN OF ME.
FORGET ABOUT IT, JINTO.
UM.. WELL...
I WELCOME YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART, RONYU.
Ha Ha Ha Ha!
THE PROPER ABRIEL AND THE FLIPPANT SPOOR...THE SAME OLD STORY GENERATION AFTER GENERATION.
I DIDN'T SHOOT HIM!
.....
AMAZING! YOU DRESSED THE FEIA LIKE THAT AND ALL SHE NEEDED TO DO WAS SHOOT YOU IN THE SHOULDER TO GET OVER IT.

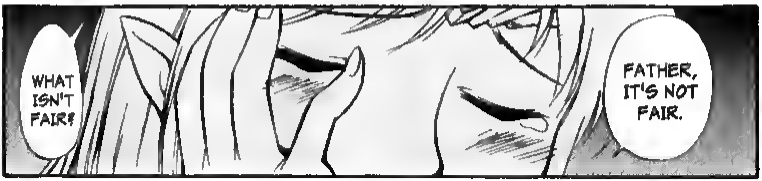
From the Futune Flagship, Jinto and Lafiel took a transport shuttle...
...and arrived at the capital, Lak Sakelle, three days later.

MY FUAL FIYUM.
WEL-COME HOME.
FATHER.


Sanctum of the Unforgotten
In Abh the Gresh Fronetala


.....
AHH
SHE TOLD ME SIMPLY THAT SHE WAS PROUD OF YOU.
DO YOU KNOW OF PLAKIA'S EVALUATION OF ME, FATHER?


ABRIELS MUST REMAIN RELENTLESS AND HEARTLESS. YOU MUST NOT CRY.
OUR FAMILY MUST PROTECT ITS REPUTATION.
ARE YOU CRYING, LAFIEL?

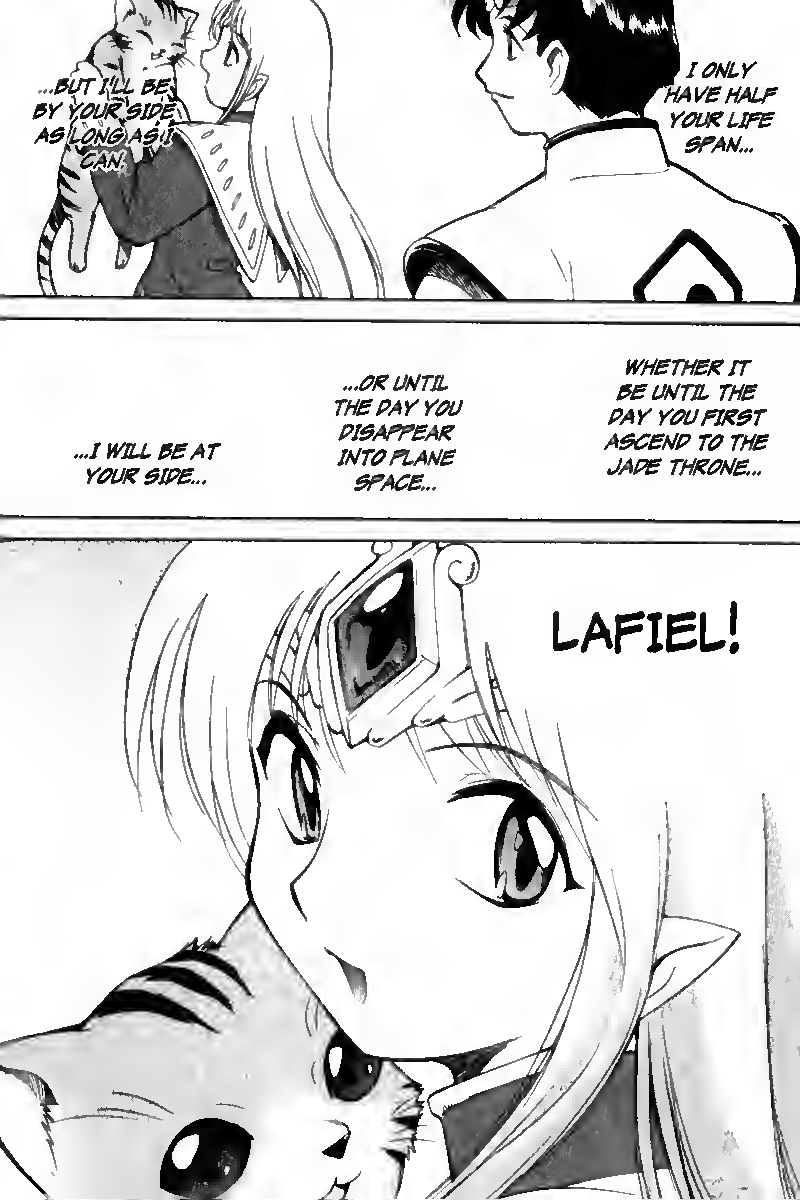

WHAT ISN'T FAIR?
FATHER, IT'S NOT FAIR.

YOU NEVER TAUGHT ME HOW TO CRY WITHOUT TEARS.

I WONDER WHY IT IS...
...I'M NOT CONCERNED THAT WE'VE LOST COMMUNICATIONS WITH MY HOME WORLD
AM I A SELFISH PERSON?
NO.
ANY WORD FROM YOUR HOME WORLD?
I DON'T KNOW.
WE REPELLED THE ENEMY SUCCESSFULLY... BUT, TO BE HONEST, IT WASN'T THAT LARGE A FORCE.
THE PATROL FLEET SENT 120 SHIPS RACING TOWARD THE CAPITAL.
THE ENEMY FLEET MOVING TOWARD THE SUFUGNOF SYSTEM HAS FAILED IN ITS TASK.

BUT OUR FORCES CAN'T SEEM TO PUSH THEM OUT. THE LABULE DOESN'T HAVE THE LARGE-SCALE MILITARY POWER TO ADVANCE ANY FARTHER
THEY HAVE
IT WILL TAKE US THREE YEARS TO PREPARE.
ENEMY FORCES IN THE REMOTE SORD REGIONS ARE ENTRENCHING THEMSELVES AND BLOCKING TRANSPORTS
CAN'T THE FURYU BAL SET UP A DEFENSE LINE TO STOP THEM?
MY HOME WORLD...
..IS RIGHT ON THE BATTLE LINES.
SO IS DORIN KU.
TOMORROW YOU START KENLE SAZOIL.
YES THREE YEARS OF STUDYING AHEAD OF ME
YOU'LL PROBABLY BE A ROWAS IN THREE YEARS
YES
I SHOULD HAVE A SMALL SHIP
MAYBE A RET. OR A GEL
.....
Stare
Stare
?

A GEL WILL NEED A FEKTODAI SAZOIL TO KEEP RECORDS.
AND_
...IT'S CUSTOMARY FOR THE CAPTAIN TO CHOOSE HER OWN CREW
IF...
FUTURE ROWAS ABRIEL..
!
..SHOULD YOU CROSS PATHS WITH FEKTODAI SAZOIL LIN, YOU SHALL INVITE HIM...
...TO SERVE UNDER YOU AS YOUR SECRETARY
GOOD!
WELL
..IF YOU INSIST, I MAY JUST HAVE TO
Sigh
SO THE ONLY THING LEFT IS MAKING SURE THE FUTURE HAPPENS
STUDY HARD AND MAKE SURE YOU ACHIEVE THAT RANK OF FEKTODAI SAZOIL.
RIGHT!


...BUT I'LL BE BY YOUR SIDE AS LONG AS I CAN.
I ONLY HAVE HALF YOUR LIFE SPAN...
WHETHER IT BE UNTIL THE DAY YOU FIRST ASCEND TO THE JADE THRONE...
...OR UNTIL THE DAY YOU DISAPPEAR INTO PLANE SPACE...
...I WILL BE AT YOUR SIDE...
LAFIEL!

Three years later...

Seelnay and the others were accepted as vassals of the Royal Family and started their own anti-matter fuel inspection company
WOW! WORK IS JUST POURING IN!
I SHOULD LET THAT REPROBATE KYTE KNOW ABOUT THIS
WOO-HOO!
Superintendant Aizan successfully blocked the government control plan in Lune Biga City
Isaz Sora Clasbul transports half of the Empire's freight to the defense lines along the current battlezone.
You call this freedom
WHY ARE WE STUCK TRANSPORTING THE FURYU BAL'S FREIGHT?
Ah, I don't mind being home a while.
Ha ha!

Attack Ship Basroil
After finishing three years of school, he began duty as a fektodai sazoil on this ship.
Jinto learned that his home world in the Hyde system was captured by the enemy military. His father was executed.
Hmm
WE'VE FINISHED LOADING THE FOOD AND SUPPLIES.
MANOWAS!

I MISSED YOU TOO.
I'LL LET YOU IN ON A BIG SECRET.
AHH.
YOU'RE RIGHT. I'VE MISSED YOU.
IT'S JUST US HERE, JINTO.
I'D RATHER YOU SAY I LOOK MORE GROWN UP...
MANOWAS!
YOU LOOK OLDER.
THEN...
FWIP
DO YOU THINK THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO CALL YOU?
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT TO CALL ME?
MANOWAS?
I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE BETTER IF WE WERE CAREFUL.
ANY OTHER TITLE WOULDN'T BE GOOD IN FRONT OF THE OTHERS

...YOU SHALL CALL ME...
...LAFIEL!

Crest of the Stars
The End

//PREVIEW //
NEXT VOLUME

Three years have passed since Lafiel and Jinto's escape from Planet Clasbul. Lafiel is now captain of her own Assault Ship, the Basroil, and has requested the services of Jinto Lin as her supply officer. But their struggle has only begun. Lafiel must deal with the pressures of command; Jinto works to make himself worthy of his Empire and of Lafiel's friendship. In the meantime, both are haunted by a phantom from the past and menaced by a numerically superior enemy fleet.

The conflict between the Abh Empire and the United Mankind has entered one of its hottest phases as the Abh initiate Operation Phantom Flame to capture a huge swath of enemy territory.

Abh *n* a race of humans genetically engineered to live in the vacuum of space. Abh have twice the lifespan of unmodified humans, blue hair, pale skin and heightened brain functions. *adj* having the quality of Abh

aga izofot *exp* a challenge to battle

alm kaselia *n.* executive officer

alm trakia *n* gunnery officer

alpha *n* control tiara worn by most Abh

arosh *n* imperial capital. To the Abh, it is the city of Lakfalle.

Pal Lepenew *exp* an Abh idiom that means Pride of the Abh

bara *n* roses

bene rodial *n* pilot trainee

bodemia *n.* scout ship

bogne *n* granddaughter

bosnal *n.* military officer or soldier

Clasbul. the name of a planet near the Sufugnof border

clyuno *n.* proper name for the Abh's primary communication device

daisele *n.* an order to launch in Labule terminology

daush *n* long, imperial robes

Delbisks. an Abh artist who specialized in landscapes

dril *n* a count, a member of the nobility

drok *n* communications

elmita *n* her majesty

elmiton *n* your majesty

Estote. a state in the Abh Empire, the location of the Star Forces officer training school

fabeut *n* high lord

fal suif *n.* master

faneb *n.* young man

fasenzal *n.* princess, designation of royalty

feia *n* highness

feia kufena *n* little royal princess

feia laltonel *n* your royal highness

feia luel *n.* your highness

fektodai sazoil *n* supply officer

frasas *n.* space-time clusters that allow Abh to travel throughhyper-space

frasatel *adj.* having the quality of frasas

frode *n* admiral

fryum neg *n.* a child born of Abh parents who decide to share genes

fual fryum *n.* precious daughter

furyu bal *n.* empire

Futune *n.* name of the main Abh patrol fleet as well as its flagship

Gaff Laka. an Abh artist who specialized in landscapes: painted Bal Reprenew

gedrels *n.* units of space travel

gel *n.* an assault ship

goobeik *n.* control stick for Abh space vessels. It works in concert with an Alpha so that Abh pilots can use their brain waves to maneuver space craft

gosk lan *n.* vassal

gosk *n* vassals

hoksas *n.* mines

hydal. *adj.* the Abh adjective for the Hyde star system as in the phrase dril hydal (the Count of Hyde)

karsal gululak *exp* kin of the stars, an idiom used to refer to the Abh, genetically engineered humans designed to live in the vacuum of space

kasna *n.* two

kenle sazoil *n* school of accounting

Labule. Star Forces, the Abh interstellar military

Lakfakalle. the capital of the Abh Empire

lals *n* king

lef *n.* citizens

leklun *n* state

Lengarf Glorf. the name of an Abh transport vessel

lepahunyu *n.* star system

lesul *n.* patrol ship

libyun *n* territory, usually ruled by a voda

lue *adj* imperial

lue suif *n.* imperial uniform worn by the nobility

lue bogne *n.* imperial granddaughter

lue lazem *n.* imperial domain

lue lef *n.* citizens of the empire

luk *n.* family

manowas *n* captain

mata *n.* one

nahenu *n.* planet

onyu *n.* idiot

opsel *n.* main engines

pelia *n.* transfer shuttle

ponew *n.* armed ship

ret *n.* escort ship

ronid *n.* base

ronyu loom leka *n.* the baron's father

ronyu *n.* excellency, term of respect used to members of the nobility and royalty

rumusko *n.* baronial domain

ryuf *n* baron

sabo luga *exp.* commence battle

sakas lazasot *n.* imperial high court

salel *n.* fleet commander

sasot *exp* Abh expression for good luck

selin *n* uniform

skul *n* unit of currency for the Abh Empire

sord *n* space-time gate that links distant points in space

spot lelag *n* information bureau

Sufagnom. Abh word for the star system Sufugnof

Sufugnof. an Abh planet on the front lines of the war with the United Mankind

suif luk *n.* noble family

suif *n* nobility, used to describe individual (a suif) or the whole of nobility as a separate class (the suif)

sune *n* court rank or title

usiya *n.* car

vesh *n* anti-matter

voda *n.* a landholding noble in the Abh empire, lord

Vorash. an Abh planet on the front lines of the war with the United Mankind

wadros sasot *n.* victory lights

yadbiru *n.* fleet

yofu *n.* gene partner

yogodozvos *n* combat status

Yunyu. one of the star systems in the Abh Empire

Illustration Gallery